JOURNAL

OF THE

BLOCKADE AND SIEGE

OF

GIBRALTAR;

FROM THE

TWELFTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1779,

TO THE

TENTH OF MARCH 1783.

CONTAINING

A MINUTE DETAIL OF THE MEMORABLE AND INTERESTING TRANSACTIONS, NAVAL AND MILITARY OBSERVATIONS;

INTERSPERSED WITH

HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS OF THE GARRISON,
GENUINE AND ENTERTAINING

ANECDOTES, &c. &c.

BY SAMUEL ANCELL, SERYEANT AND CLERK TO THE 58TH REGIMENT.

WRITTEN IN THE GARRISON.

THE FOURTH EDITION.

Cork:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR BY A. EDWARDS,

AND

Sold by all the Bookfellers in Town and Country.

1793.

Same and the Trothambite of the 2000 10 CARBOAR ARAGINATION CARL JULY ANDE WERE THE STATE OF TO AND HISTORY FRANCE STORY en et al. A.C. Marie an pet see 1 2 1 2:5 Gersy or a second estine in the law. Rengalization and a second of the second of the second Public Duckton States THE THE PROPERTY OF THE TO HIS EXCELLENCY

JOHN FANE,

Earl of Weltmorland,

LORD LIEUTENANT GENERAL,

AND

GENERAL GOVERNOR OF IRELAND;
GRAND MASTER

OF THE

ORDER OF St. PATRICK.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

THE following Sheets, containing the Events of the late memorable SIEGE of GIBRALTAR, written by a SOLDIER, during the continuance of the Blockade and Bombardment, in the intervals of rest from Public Duty, are,

With the most profound Respect,

INSCRIBED BY

Your EXCELLENCY's

Most obedient humble Servant,

KILKENNY, 12th Feb. 1793. Samuel Ancell,

SERJEANT, 58TH REGT.

LUCAL XI UN 67-I do the first of the MARTINAL CAGI A triple bouter to the Crass assistance of the wife of the way it is the same sign of and additionary of the f Control of the contro altuminists , Same and the contract of to meanings of grown giorit des les carosses els citables de la la company de la property the state of the state of the state of v. organisans monach Tuer EXCEPTERCT toden elemente de la compaña d felt anniest Wagnet - Amount to title for the

TO THE READER.

The tellimony of Printer Appropriate

distant activition anding their wast of that

TO THE READER

THE great indulgence the following Letters have experienced from a generous Public, demand the AUTHOR's most warm and grateful Acknowledgments; who feels himself happy in having the opportunity to THANK the numerous patronizers of his Labours.

It were needless to offer an Apology, after the candid reception the Work has been favoured with; yet, as many will peruse this Edition, who had not the opportunity of inspecting the former, it is necessary to mention, that at the Time of inditing they were not intended for the Preis, nor would they have been presented to the Public, but from repeated solicitation.—Importunity prevailed.—The recital of the various Occurrences, and momentous Events, as they were written and selt amidst all the rage of War, Hurry, and Confusion, made their first appearance at Liverpool

and a main

in 1784, and experienced a successful and rapid Sale, notwithstanding their want of that elegance of Diction, which works of labour and study are embellished with.

This testimony of Public Approbation has induced the AUTHOR (the sirst Writer, and who has not borrowed or copied from other Publications) to continue them in their Original Stile, and to submit this Edition to the Candour of his Readers; who, it is hoped, will overlook any inaccuracies they may meet with, especially when they consider, that a Soldier's business is Discipline, and not Literary Fame.

SUBSCRIBERS

11. 15582 11.157

SUBSCRIBERS NAMES.

the time authorized to the second

A Control of the cont Mr. William Ashe, 1013 14 14 7 48th Regt: 1911110 Mr. Roger Adams, William Atkins, Efq; Mr. John Abell,
Mr. Joseph Austen, Serjeant Appelt, 58th Regt. Serjeant-Major Armstrong, 27th Mr. Morris Armor, Mr. Thomas Armstrong, Ar-Mr. Joseph Ancell, Merton-Abbey England, Mr. William Ancell, Ditto, Mr. Jeremiah Ancell, London, Arthur Anderson, Esq; B. ... Mr. John Beek, Mrs. T. Burk, Mr. John Bennett, Mr. John Burchell, Walter Baldwin, Efq;

Mr. Croker Barrington, Mr. William Biffet, Kinfale,

Dr. Browne, 28th Regt.

Major Black, late 13th Regt.

Quarter Master Serjeant Robert

Mr. Perkin Barter,

Mr. Thomas Beale,

Mr. J. S. Bastable,

Mr. Thomas Beamish,

Burnett, 43d Regt.

Serjeant Bruce, 43d Regt.

Lt. Colonel William Brereton, Captain Baugh, 58th Regt. Lieutenant Biern, 58th Regt. Lieutenant Ball, 58th Regt. Ensign Brady, 58th Regt. Serjeant Boyde, 38th Regt. Serjeant Buchanan, 58th Regt. Serjeant Browne, 58th Regt. Corporal Bath, 58th Regts Serjeant Burnes, 27th Regt. Serjeant Bayle, 27th Regt. Drum-Major John Beek, 27th Regt. Corporal Berwick, 27th Regt. Corporal Buchanan, 27th Regt. Corporal Booth, 27th Regt. Mr. Andrew Beaty, Joseph H. Blake, Esq; M. P. Ralph Cole Bowen, Efq; M. Byrne, Efq; Commissary of Musters, Mr. James Brown, Mr. Thomas Bradshaw, Mr. Frederick Charles Bolton, Capt. Robert Bowden, Barn-Itaple, Mr. Daniel Bigg, Mr. Charles Broad, Henry Ball, Eig; Youghall. Arthur Gifford Brabazon, Efq; Youghall. Mr. William Bissett, Kinfale.

SUBSCRIBERS.

Thomas Backas, Efq; Waterford Mr. Frederick Burk, Armagh, Mr. John Brown, Armagh, Mr. Chichester Bickerstaff, Armagh,

Mr. John Bleakley, Armagh,
Mr. James T. Bell, Armagh,
Mr. Thomas Bleakley, Armagh,
Mr. Edward Byrne, Youghall,
Mr. Michael Brian,
Lieutenant Butler, 24th Regt.
Mr. James Browne, Kilworth,
Mr. Walter Brown, Kilworth,
Corporal Bentley, 14th Drag.
Mr. John Bennett, Limerick,
Mr. Joseph Burn, Kilkenny,

in ty Ho2 helona End Major Edward Cane, Dublin, Rev. John Carey, Johnstown, Mr. John Carey, Ditto, Mr. Daniel Corbett, Mr. Daniel Crone, Mr. Michael Cooper, Mr. Myles Carroll, Killarney, Mr. Anthony Cofgrove, Mr. Francis Cottrel, Architect, Mr. Abraham Clark, Mr. Thomas Campbell, Armagh Mr. Nehemiah Carlon, Armagh, Mr. William Campbell, Armagh, Mr. Samuel Cuming, Armagh, Mr. George Cuming, Armagh, Samuel Charnley, Efq; Youghall, Mr. Charles Coghlan, Mr. George Carr, James Chatterton, Esq; Serjeant at Law, Thomas Chatterton, Efq; James Chatterton, jun. Elq;

Mr. William Cannon,

Mr. Thomas Clarke,

Mr. Daniel Corbett,

-Mr. Christopher Cole.

Mr. William Crefts,

Mr. Thomas Coppinger, Mr. Robert Longfield Connor, Mr. W. D. Cowley, Mr. William Craig, Henry Croker, Eiq; Mr. John Corbett, Mr. A. Campion, Mr. George Corlett, Mr. James Carr, Mr. Michael Callahan, Major Carter, 12th Dragoons, Lieut. Cameron, 42d Regt. Capt. Cunningham, 58th Regt. Lieut. Crowgey, 58th Regt. Lieut. Costello, 58th Regt. Serjeant Cope, 58th Regt. Corporal Coldwell, 58th Regt. Corporal Curry, 58th Regt. Enfign Chute, 69th Regt. Serj. Crookshanks, 69th Regt. Serjeant Crowley, 69th Regt. Serjeant Cowley, 27th Regt. Corporal Connor, 27th Regt. Corporal Crofts, 27th Regt.

D John Dickson, Esq; Counsellor at Law, and annual Mr. William Dalzell, Armagh, Mr. Robert Dunlap, Armagb, Mr. William Donovan, Toughall Mr. Jeremiah Dwyer, Mr. – - Donnoghue, Mr. Simon Douglas, Mr. Robert Dargavell, Mr. John Denison, Merchant, Derry. Mr. Peter Dyer, amon'l Mr. George J. Drinan, Mr. Jeremiah Dwyer, Enfign Denny, 42d Regt. J. W. De la Cour, Efer

Mr. Davies,

Governor De Courcy,

Capt. W. De Courcylate 58th Rt.

SUBSCRIBERS

Mr. Christopher Dowden, Sir Barry Denny, Mr. John Davidson, Captain Dennis, 42d Regt. Captain Douglas, 58th Regt. Serjeant Dykes, 27th Regt. Corporal Dealy, 27th Regt. Mr. Joseph Dickinson.

Mr. Edward Elsimare, Killarney, Mr. John Edgar, Lodge-Mills, County of Carlow, Mr. Edward Evott, Dublin, T. Evans, Esq;

Corporal Enright, 27th Regt. Samuel Freeman, Efq; Youghall. Mr. Henry Feild. Mr. Maurice Fitzgerald. Mr. Robert Franks. Mr. Thomas Frith, Kinjale. Mr. Jaiper Ford. Mr. John Forbes. Mr. Tifdale Forster. Mr. Hugh Fitzpatrick. Mr. William Kemp Forster, Mr. Samuel Freeman, Sauage French, Efq; Henry Fortesque, Esq. Mr. Michael French, Mr. Thomas Frith, Mr. Robert Frith, Serj. Major Fuller, 42d Regt. Serjeant Flaherty, 27th Regt. Corporal Farrell, 27th Regt.

Thomas Green, Esq. Youghall.
Mr. James Ellis Green, ditto,
Mr. William Gilland, ditto,
Mr. Thomas Greer, Armagh,
Mr. Thomas Geary,
Mr. James Gregory,
Serjeant Wm. Gunn, 51st Regt.
Mr. Martin Grannel,

Adjutant Gunn, 66th Rege, Mr. William Gibson, Mr. John Gwyn, Richard Gillman, Esq. Corporal Galvin, 27th Regt.

John Haige, Esq; M. D. Tougball Mr. John Hall, Armagh, Mr. Michael Halloran, Mr. Michael Hannan, Mr. Thomas Hadigan, Mr. Smollet Holden, Mr. Edward Halloran, Caftle Martyr. Arthur Henry, Efq; London, Mr. Joseph Hughes, Henry Hutcheson, Esq; Mr. Richard Holland, Richard Hungerford, Efq: Miss Susan Hungerford, Mr. A. Hill, Colonel Hedges,

Miss Susan Hungerford,
Mr. A. Hill,
Colonel Hedges,
Mr. Samuel Hobbe,
Rev. Mr. Hingston,
John Hennessy, Esq;
Doctor Hudson,
Mr. William Hamilton,
Mr. William Hamman,
Serjeant-Major Hill, 28th Regt.
Capt. Hemmings, 58th Regt.
Lieutenant Hennis, 58th Regt.
Lieutenant Hay, 58th Regt.
Ensign James Hamilton, 58th
Regt.
Ensign John Hamilton, 58th

Regt.

Quarter-Master Harrison, 58th
Regt.

Quarter-Master Harrison, 58th
Regt.

Serjeant Hink, 58th Regt.

Corporal Hedman, 58th Regt.

Serjeant Hallbrook, 27th Regt.

Serjeant Helwig, 27th Regt.

Serjeant Healy, 27th Regt.

Corporal Hay, 27th Regt.

SUBSCRIBERS.

Corporal Healy, 27th Regt. Mr. Robert Huggans,

Hugh Ingram, Esq;
John Ingram, Esq;
Mr. William Jenkins, Youghall,
Mr. Thomas Jackson, Armagh,
Mr. James Ireland, Armagh,
Captain Jones, late 34th Regt.
Mr. John Jago,
Mr. Charles Jago,
Lieutenant William Jephson,
Captain Ingram, 58th Regt.
4 Copies,
Lieutenant Ibbetson, 58th Regt.
Mr. Luke Jacques.

Michael Keane, Esq; Toughall, William Kirby, Esq; Toughall, Mr. William Kelly, ditto, Mr. William Keith, ditto, Mr. Thomas Kelly, ditto, Thomas Kirwan, Esq; Commissary of Musters, Alexander Kirk, Esq; Derry, Attorney at Law, Mr. Lewis Kinchela, Kilkenny, Mr. Timothy Kohan,

Rev. Mr. A. Kennedy, Jervois Kelly, Serj. 12th Drag. Edmond R. Kinselagh, Esq; Serjeant Kimplin, 58th Regt. Corporal Keating, 58th Regt.

Mr. James Leach, Waterford,
Mr. James Lucas,
Mr. Samuel Lestley, Armagh,
Mr. John Lynch,
Mr. Lake, Gauger, Kilworth,
Rev. Francis Law,
Mr. James Lucas,
Mr. Laurant,
Rev. Richard Lloyd,
Hon. James Lysaight,

Mr. Benfon Lawton,
Dominick Lombard, Efq;
Mr. Joseph Lattey,
William Longfield, Efq;
Mr. John Lyon,
Mr. N. F. Lane,
Mr. Arthur Lucas,
Serjeant Loftus, 42d Regt.
Serjeant Liddel, 69th Regt.
Corporal William Lamley, 27th
Regt.

M Mr. James M'Kean, Armagh, Mr. Walter M'Kenstry, ditto, Mr. Ham. M'Call, ditto, Lieut. Mansergh, 32d Regt. Mr. Mahay, Kilkenny, Mr. M'Farlane, late Serjeant 58th Regt. Mr. Murrough, Kilworth, James M'Cormick, Efq; Thos. M'Adam, Efq; Limerick, John M'Adam, Efq; ditto, Lieut. James Mahony, late 49th Regt. Killarney, Michael Morrison, Esq; William Maturin, Efq; General Post-Office, Dublin, Mr. John Morrison, Architect, Middleton, Mr. William Murphy, Killarney, Mr. William Mead, Mr. Richard Moffitt, Carlow, Mr. Matchet M'Carthy, Killarney Miss Mary Kennelly,

Mr. Robert Molyniex, Kinfale,
Mr. James Moffitt, Armagh,
Mr. James Mackey, Armagh,
Mr. William Murphy, Killarney,
Mr. Charles M'Carthy,
Rev. Richard Meade,
Mr. M'Adams,
Mr. Jeremiah Murphy,
Mr. Peter M'Swiney,

SUBSCRIBERS

Mr. Robert Martin, Sir Henry Mannix, Bart. Lieut. Moore, 28th Regt. Mr. H. Mortashed, Serjeant-major, 28th Regt. Major William M'Myne, 58th Regt. 2 Copies, Captain Morrisson, 58th Regt. Lieut. Mawdelley, 58th Regt. Enfign Massay, 58th Regt. Serjeant M'Donald, 58th Regt. Serjeant M'Leod, 58th Regt. Corporal Munroe, 58th Regt. Serjeant Malcolm, 69th Regt. Serjeant Marshall, 27th Regt. Corporal Moyles, 27th Regt. Corporal Moyler, 27th Regt. Corporal M'Mahon, 27th Regt. Mr. John Murphy, Mr. M'Caffy, Mr. Richard Nafon, Youghall, Captain Neven, Armagh, Mr. Malachy Norton, Dublin, Mr. Thomas Noble, Mr. George Newman, Kinfale, Mr. John Nixon, Mr. Newall, Kilworth, Thomas Newenham, Efq; Mr. Edmond Nash, Lewellan Nash, Esq; John Reeves Nettles, Efq; Mr. Terence Nugent, Serjeant Nayler, 27th Regt. Mr. Andrew Nixon, Mr. George Nixon. The Right Hon. John Earl of Ormonde and Offory, Ann, Countess of Ormonde, George Ogle, Efq; Mr. Anthony O'Connor, Mrs. O'Callaghan,

Mr. Daniel O'Sullivan,

Mr. William Orr, at Tyleski letegros Mr. James Orr, Rev. Mr. Harris, Oldfield. Garret Power, M. D. Youghall, John Power, Efq; Toughall, Captain John Peel, Workington, Mr. Thomas Pomeroy, Mr. Parry, George Evans Parker, Efg; Caftle-Lough, Mr. James Peacock, Limerick, Mr. Matthew Prior, Derry, Missge Mr. Benjamin Pratt, Rev. Mr. Percival, and additionable. J. W. Croker Poole, Efg. port stall all. Master T. Poole, Mr. James Price, Mr. John Palmer, 12th Drag.
Lieut. Pyne, 58th Regt. Mr. Edmond Phillips, W. M. Powell, 69th Regt. Serjeant Parson, 27th Regt. Captain Richard Roche, Curry-Glafs, Mr. Robert Rice, Armagh, Mr. John Robinet, Armagh, Rev. Edw. St. Robarts, Armagh, Mr. Cor. Ryan, Clonmell, Mr. Regan, Mr. D. T. Ryan, Limerick, and informe? Mr. Morgan Regan, Mr. Peter Rogers, Mr. Herbert Reed, Killarney, Mr. In. Roche, Mr. Philip Rowe, Kilkenny, Mr. John Rohan, Limerick, Edward Hoare Reeves, Efq; Mr. Robert L. Roe, WELL MARCH Mr. John Ready, Lieut. Col. Roberts, 28th Regt. Captain Rice, 58th Regt. 18doi 11 .vo? Enfign Robertson, 58th Regt.

SUBSCRIBERS.

Adjutant Royall, 58th Regt. David Ross, Drum-major, 58th Regiment.

Lieut. Richardson, 69th Regt. Serj. maj. Rushton, 69th Regt. Serj. Pat. Richardson 27th Regt. Corporal Reddick, 27th Regt. Corporal Ryan, 27th Regt.

Major Rich. Saunders, Youghall, Mr. Thomas Seward, Youghall,

Attorney at Law,
Rev. Edward Spread, Youghall,
Master James Simple, Waterford
Robert Smithwick, Esq. Lim.
Mr. Rich. N. Scott, Merchant,
Derry.

David Spens, Efq; Strabane,
Mr. Francis Sinclair, Dublin,
Mr. Thomas Stritch,
Arthur B. Shears, Efq;
William Stammers, Efq;
Lieur. John Somerville, Navy,
William Smyth, Efq;
Capt. Edward Saunders,
Major-General G. Scott, 58th

Regt.
Lieut. Colonel Robert Stewart,
58th Regt. 4 Copies,

Hon. Wm. Stapleton, Captain 58th Regt.

Lieutenant Smith, 58th Regt.
Enfign Smith, 58th Regt.
Enfign Scott, 58th Regt.
Doctor Shield, 58th Regt.
Mrs. Shield,

Mr. Salmond, Affiftant Surgeon 58th Regt.

Serjeant Saundell, 27th Regt. Serjeant Struthew, 27th Regt. Corporal Scott, 27th Regt.

Joseph Travers, Esq; Mr. John Tynann, Dublin, Rev. Syng Townsend,
Richard B. Townsend, Esq;
Robert Travers, Esq;
Captain Thomas 28th Regt.
Captain Twyssen, 28th Regt.
Mr. Henry Timbrell, Royal
Irish Artillery,
Corporal Tutslish, 27th Regt.

John Unthank, Efq; M. D.

Mr. Robert Vincent, Lieut. Vanthomrigh, 58th Regt

Richard Watkins, Efq; M. D.
Rev. Thos. Westropp, Limerick,
Thomas White, Efq;
Mr. Thomas Evanson White,
Mr. Thomas Walsh, Armagh,
Mr. Robert Walsh, Armagh,
Edward Weekes, Efq; Waterford
Christmas Weekes, Efq; Commissary of Musters,
Mr. Rich. Whitford, Kilworth,

missary of Musters,
Mr. Rich. Whitsord, Kilworth,
Christopher Waggett, Esq;
Robert Warren, Esq;
George Wade, Esq;
James Wallace, Esq;
Henry Williamson, Esq;
Francis A. White, Esq;
Rev. James Richard Walsh,
Captain Warren, 12th Drag.
Henry White, Serj. 58th Regt.
Hon. A. Westley, Capt. 58th

Regt.
Serjeant Wharwood, 58th Regt.
Serjeant Warde, 27th Regt.
Corporal Wright, 27th Regt.
Corporal Westwood, 27th Regt.
Robert Wall, Royal Irish Arul.
Mr. Robert Wigfall.

Mr. William Young, Mr. Robert Young.

AUTHENTIC JOURNAL

OF THE

BLOCKADE and SIEGE AND ALTER AND ALT

diend more of the syding the work the state of

OI

GIBRALTAR

LETTER I.

industrial and deliver a my explosion

Gibraltar. 1779

Jošeph Travers, Kilg Mir John Traven, Dadou

DEAR BROTHER,

I SHOULD think myself wanting in affection and gratitude did I not favour you with the particulars of every thing deserving notice, during the approaching siege; but from the duty Sept. or with working parties,) many matters of a trifling nature, probably may escape my know-ledge; do not therefore expect this Journal to be elaborately filled with trivial daily occurrences, but depend upon receiving a full account of every transaction of a public nature; fuch as the enemy's motions, firings, vessels engaged, taken, escaped, failed, arrived, bat-

teries erected, destroyed, &c. &c.

12th. A council of war being held yesterday at the Convent, at which the field officers and naval commanders affisted, it was resolved unanimoully to commence a cannonade on the Spanish works; and accordingly this morning, (having previously withdrawn our advanced guards from Bay Side, and Forbes's) we opened our batteries on the enemy, beginning at Rock Gun, down to the Mole Head, employing every piece of ordnance that could possibly bear upon them. An officer's lady,* whom curiofity had excited to our batteries, was encouraged to discharge the first gun; and having taken a lighted match, (with an intrepidity not peculiar to the fex) General Eliott pronounced, in a true heroic stile, " Britons strike home," and immediately every battery and angle bellowed with rage, and vomited forth the most tremendous flames.

At the first discharge our shot dropped short, so that their advanced guards had time to escape to their lines, and their precipitate retreat

^{*} The Lady of Lieut. Skinner, Engineer.

almost occasioned a general laugh, to view the 1779 Dons tumbling one over another as they fled Sept. from the showers of shot. When the enemy had reached their lines, we gave more elevation to our guns, and Fort Barbara and St. Philippe received a heavy cannonade, nor were any part of the Spanish lines neglected. As I came up the street about two hours after, from Waterport, (having been the preceding day and night on duty at that post) I could not but remark the timidity and fearful apprehension pictured on the countenance of the inhabitants, as they minutely expected a furious return from the enemy. The Jews and Jewesses exhibited the most descriptive amazement; terror had taken fuch poffession of their minds, that they fought shelter at the fouthward, leaving their houses and effects, (except such as were of convenient carriage) exposed to the dangers that must have ensued, had the enemy opened upon the town. About four in the afternoon we began to throw shells * into their forts, and the enemy, who had fecured fome indifferent retreat from our shot, now found themselves most inconveniently annoyed, as we often perceived that their guards and parties were thrown into disorder.

A heavy and incessant fire all night. The 13th. enemy appear to be in motion; and our expectations lead us to imagine, that, about noon they

* A round piece of cast iron, some of 8 and a half, 10 and 23 inches diameter, hollow in the inside, by which they are charged, and a suze drove in at the mouth, of different lengths, according to the distance the shell is intended to be discharged. When the suze burns to the powder, the shell immediately bursts with great sury.

Sept. ful inhabitants, who sheltered at the southward, 13th. cannot be persuaded to return, but seem happy in their minds, that they are out of the reach of the foe. It was observed to-day that their forts have received some damage from

our firings.

The enemy have not made a return. The uneafiness of the people seem less predominant, and some have ventured to return to their habitations in town. The foe are very busy; they are encamped at the foot of Santa Roque, to a great number, with some squadrons of horse; they appear to be about 16,000 men, including the Catalan troops; they are beginning to carry fascines * and gabions + to their lines, fo that it is beyond difpute they mean to return the fire. When we first received the account, (June 21st) from Gen. Mendoza, commandant at Santa Roque, of the commencement of hostilities between their Catholic and Britannic majesties, it occasioned a general rumour in the garrison; the Governor and principal officers affembled on the Grand-Parade, and every tongue was employed in delivering their opinions. Our advanced guards and lines were reinforced, and detachments of the piquets fent to the weakest places, as we concluded that the enemy would endeavour to furprise the place.

Hostilities

* Wood cut from trees, and bound in bundles, or hoop sticks well foaked in water.

[†] Pieces of timber, bound with iron hoops, like a cask, and the inclosed part, when placed on a battery, is filled with earth.

Hostilities being thus commenced, General 1779 Eliott, with the advice of the naval comman- Sept. der, issued letters of marque to several privateers in this Port, who immediately went out and captured fome fmall prizes with wine, brandy, and other necessaries, that probably may be much wanted. On the 26th of July, Admiral Don Barcello, with two line of battle ships, two frigates, one xebec, and several gallies, anchored off Cabritta Point, to keep the Port blockaded. Our cruizers were under the necessity of returning to the bay, and are now laid up, as the enemy are ever watchful of their motions, and our force is too weak to offer an opposition. It is currently reported that Spain's intention is to oblige us to furrender by famine; you may therefore conclude, that while the enemy remain masters of the Straits, our fituation will be exceedingly difagreeable, and we shall be greatly necessitated for refreshment.

Our Governor is indefatigable in improving the works, particularly those on the heights of the hill, which are most convenient to annoy the enemy, and prevent their approaches.

The enemy are very affiduous; many work- 20th. ing parties employed, but we cannot form any judgment of what they are doing. This day a fettee,* that feemly stood for the bay, (wind West) was conducted by Admiral Barcello's cruizers to Algaziras:—This circumstance makes us rather uneasy, as we are apprehensive that many more will share the same fate. This day a serjeant and a Hanoverian

* A Market Boat,

1779 Sept. 30th. noverian private, deferted, notwithstanding our shot they escaped to the Spanish lines.

The enemy are quiet, but continue a sharp look out in the Gut. This day Admiral Barcello's ship was dressed with a variety of colours, and a salvo fired. He rides most magnificently, exulting over a people shut up like poultry in a coop. He is so vain, and so prepossessed with the prospect of our capitulating, that he has ordered each officer under his command, to wear the key of the Straits, with a ribbon pendent from the breast. We may expect the next month will furnish more important intelligence. Whatever happens (if I survive) you may depend upon receiving a minute and circumstantial account, from

Your's affectionately,

LETTER II.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

Oct. 9. The AR distant from every endearing friend, Oct. 9. I and the social joys of fellowship, I again take my pen to write to you. Nothing material has happened since my last. The enemy are exceedingly assiduous at work, and we are constantly playing upon their parties with cannon. Admiral Barcello, with the strictest vigilance, watches the Gut, and some of his cruizers are mostly stretching from Ceuta to Cabritta Point, to guard the Offing. We have not received any supplies or intelligence, nor have

have we observed a ship, boat, or settee, from 1779 East to West, endeavour to make the Port. Oct. 9. Every thing is getting to so exorbitant a price, that it is almost impossible for a person of a moderate income to purchase what is requisite for sustenance.

This day, a twenty-four pounder was draged up the face of the Rock to Midshipman's lookout, or Rack-Gun; the labour and danger attending it is not to be conceived, in the conveyance over the rugged Rock, to a height of 1357 feet.

The Enemy's Force now confifts of

AT ALGAZIRAS,

ı îhip ı frigate	70 36		1 xebec	guns. 32 28	men. 250 200
	*	AT CI	EUTA,		
ı ship	60	600	1 xebec	20	180
1 frigate	26	250	1 ditto	14	80
1 xebec	18	200			
	CONS	TANTI	Y CRUIZIN	1G.	

1	xebec 16	100	6 quarter galleys	450
4	fmaller	240	20 armed boats	300
6	half-galleys	1000		

ON OUR SIDE ARE AT ANCHOR,

Panthor .	60	400	Gibraltar	12	40.
Enterprize	28	200	Fortune	10	30
Childers	14	90			
		В	2		Last

30th.

Oct. at work, our batteries poured upon them a 20th. liberal distribution of shells, notwithstanding which, they completed their operations, and this morning exhibited to our view three new batteries, two of fourteen, and one of seven guns, constructed for playing upon our lines at Lamport and Waterport.

No prospect of relief. We begin to think Britain has forgot that such people are in existence. The enemy are quiet, but exceeding watchful, and labour much at their approaches. We cannot form any judgment of what they are doing. Our batteries continue

the cannonade.

This day the Peace and Plenty privateer, being chased to the eastward by a frigate and two row gallies, wind at S. E. was unfortunately driven ashore between the Devil's Tower and Fort Barbara. Our batteries commenced a brisk cannonade on the Fort, and dismounted feveral of their guns, but notwithstanding, the enemy poured into her a prodigious quantity of round and grape thot. The boatswain had his right thigh shot off, and died soon after. The captain finding it impossible to get her off the bed of fand where she had run aground, and grape shot pouring in a continual shower from the enemy's batteries, he and the crew (having taken out a few things) abandoned her, and came in at Landport. She was detached by General Murray, from Minorca, to view our fituation, and to learn if any supplies were come from England. had taken several prizes to the eastward, and relates

relates that the troops at *Minorca* are in good 1779 health, and want nothing but clothing.

Oct.

Fort Barbara kept all night a fire upon the 31st. unfortunate privateer, her hull and rigging is fo greatly shattered, that she will never be fit for fea again. The enemy feem to be making preparations for a vigorous attack; they have begun forming feveral bomb batteries. Our fire is without intermission. Several of our howitzer * shells fell among their working parties, and killed a great number. General Eliott continues to increase the fortifications; and working parties from each regiment in the garrison, are employed in creeting traverfes + in different parts of the streets to shelter the troops and inhabitants from the enemy's shot. We have not received any supplies either from England, Portugal, Tangier, Tetuan, or Minorca, nor has a ship appeared standing for the Bay but the Peace and Plenty. The Spanish cruizers keep hovering in the Offing. We wait the arrival of a fleet with impatience.

Yours &c.

mathery with room a me galf and

^{*} A piece of ordnance mounted on a carriage like a cannon, which discharges shells in any direction.

[†] Casks filled with earth, placed three deep, and at sufficient height to cover the head.

LETTER III.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

Nov. 1. THE enemy last night fired a carcass; into the privateer which run aground the 30th ult. and in a few hours she was consumed. The enemy continue to work, and we continue to fire. Provision is getting extravagantly dear and scarce: fish and flour are the chief support of the inhabitants. A small string of fish, about the size of a large sprat, eight in

This day the bakers shut their doors, and delivered their bread through a wicket, protected by a guard, as the crowds were so pressing, they were under the apprehension of their houses being pulled down; the slour they have in hand will not last, according to computation, more than two months. Antonio Smilie (a noted Genoese baker) assured me, he had only eighteen barrels of flour to serve himself, family, and the public. The Governor has ordered them to bake but a stipulated quantity daily, which is not half the supply required by the garrison.

number, cost upwards of two shillings English.

It is really grievous to see the fighting of the people for a morsel of bread, at a price not to be credited by those who never knew the hardship of a siege. Men wrestling, women intreating,

[‡] An iron case with sour holes in it, to let out the slames, about the size of a bomb shell, charged with combustibles for setting houses and ships on fire, discharged out of mortars.

intreating, and children crying; a jargon of 1779 all languages piteously pouring forth their Nov. complaints. The tear of fensibility is copiously shed, and commiseration mutually exchanged. What a lituation! where humanity is deprived of the ability to alleviate the innumerable wants of old and young. When our diffresses

will end, time alone can unfold.

Many of the women and children returned from the baker's this morning, without being able to procure the smallest relief, and those who did, obtained it by forcing the timid and weaker part of the applicants away. A foldier is itrictly forbidden to attend the delivery, except when ordered there on duty; fo that his family must be subsisted on his very scanty allowance, if his wife or children should not be fortunate to get a loaf, which in our present fituation is an agonizing difficulty. The bread is made from wheat ground without lifting, oatmeal, and ground peafe; and when baked refembles a brick bat. For one of these small loaves (bad and gritty as they are, and in fize not bigger than a halfpenny roll) we must pay an English shilling.

This day arrived a Spanish two-decker from 6th. the West, and anchored between Cabritta and the battery at Algizaras. Several small craft

also arrived.

The enemy are quiet, but builty employed at work at their bomb batteries. This afternoon a Spanish frigate sailed from Algaziras to Ceuta.

This morning we observed the enemy had recalled their working parties from the lines, and that they were forming fortifications, extending 1779 tending from Fort St. Phillippe to Point Negro,
Nov. as a defence and cover for their camp; this
gives us the alluring hope, that they have some
intimation of our fleet being at sea. Our batteries are not idle, but keep a well directed
fire on their forts and late approaches.

The calls of duty prevent my further writing. Excuse all inaccuracies, and believe that

I shall always remain,

Affectionately yours, &c.

LETTER IV.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

SEVERAL days more elapsed amidst expectation and firing, but no prospect of relief. The merchants are getting money apace; for every article they sell they charge their own price. O ye winds be propitious, and quickly wast our floating castles to our relief! Haste and save us from hunger, misery, and death!

The enemy continue their works on the shore, and have forwarded a battery near the guard house, on the right of St. Phillippe. Our fire from the batteries has slackened, as the enemy do not appear very numerous in their lines.

Last night came in two deserters from the enemy's * Walloon guards, with their arms, &c. they aftert that the enemy have one thousand pieces

^{*} The King of Spain's Body Guards.

pieces of cannon and mortars in their lines, and 1779 only wait an order from the court of Madrid Nov. to fire, that their magazines are full of powder, and that a reinforcement of French troops are hourly expected. They are lodged at his Excellency's house, and I do not doubt but their intelligence will prove advantageous to the operations of our works. They were conducted by the quarter-master general to Willis's, and the upper batteries, from which a proper view can be taken of the enemy's works.

Wind N. W. This morning we were led 14th. to believe that our fleet was near at hand: the Spanish watch-towers hung out fignal-colours, and the battery at Cabritta Point fired a gun for their cruizers to get under weigh. A privateer was foon discovered standing for the bay, under all the fail she could croud; the gun-boats bore down upon, and fired brifkly into her, which the returned as spiritedly: two frigates having flipped anchor, stretched across from Cabritta to intercept her; having got within long gun shot, they fired two or three broadfides; the cutter then tacked and stood for the Barbary shore; the frigates followed, and foon drove to leeward; the then tacked and stood again for the garrison, when a third frigate and a xebec pulhed out, and likewise dropped to leeward, while the cutter kept her course: Admiral Barcello then hove too under Cabritta, with an intent to keep the windward gage: the bravadoing, bluftering, and vigilant Barcello, in the St. Jean Baptiste of 70 guns, eagerly bore down, and having got within half cannon shot, poured into her his

1779 Nov. 14th.

whole broadfide, which the cutter returned; he then made fignal for the gun-boats and gallies to board, but when they had rowed pretty near, the hardy crew gave them such a warm reception, that they were compelled to retire. The Spanish admiral having fallen to leeward, endeavoured to work up again, but not being able, on account of the fresh breeze at N. W. was, to his no fmall mortification, under the necessity of going to the eastward, with the remainder of his cruizers. She proves to be the Buck of Folkstone, Captain Fagg, in nineteen days from England. On his dropping anchor at New Mole, the numerous spectators from the batteries and walls, gave him three cheers, and the General on his landing paid him the highest commendation for his conduct and bravery.—The seamen relate a humourous account of Captain Fagg.

Arrived a settee with thirty-eight bullocks from Tangier; two others were taken by the enemy's gun-boats, one of which had a packet for the garrison; they were kept so long on board before they could get in, that they were nearly perished: their slesh, when killed, was like a jelly, and sold for three rials * and

eight quarts per pound.

The wind having shifted, Admiral Barcelle and his squadron returned to their station: they keep a sharp look out from Cabritta, being determined not to be beat again in so shameful a manner.

This

^{*} A rial is a piece of Spanish coin, Gibraltar currency, eight-pence value, equal to four-pence three farthings sterling. A quart is a Spanish half-penny, forty of which is given in change for an English shilling.

This day four Portuguese who were privately 1779 dispatched by the Governor to fetch a packet Nov. from Faro, returned fafe; they had a small 24th. boat which the Moors permitted them to carry on Camels over rocks and mountains, and having launched it in a creek under Apes Hill, they stole over in the night. We flatter ourselves there is good news, as the General and principal officers appeared to be in high spirits.

This morning came in a deferter from the 30th. enemy, and this evening another; they both belonged to the Walloon guards, and brought their arms with them: the latter was purfued by three horsemen, and would have been taken, had not our people been very alert at Willis's, in pouring in grape * thot upon the pursuers.

The enemy are bringing down great quan- Dec. 1. tities of facines to the lines, and are again labouring at their advanced works, but do not feem disposed to turn out fire. Last night came in two diferters from the Walloon Guards; they report that the enemy are not to fire while they can keep the place blockaded, as General Alvarez is confident that famine will oblige us to furrender. We are certainly greatly distressed for want of fresh provision and vegetables.— Salt meat, which is fold for two rials, and two and a half per pound, is difficult to be procured. Yesterday a baker was obliged to thut up, not having flour sufficient for his family for one month. Appearances are rather God grant that a fleet may foon dreadful. arrive, or the confequences will be truly dreadful.

^{*} Shot of a pound and a half, and two pound weight, a number of them put in a tip case, and fired, which scatters n the discharge many yards.

Dec. 8. He was closely pursued by two horsemen, but our batteries made them retreat. He says, that the Spanish army are much distressed in camp for fresh water, and that a great many die of the flux, occasioned by drinking of the

falt fprings.

of the Spanish lines, and presently after two horsemen followed, and having overtaken them, they killed one on the spot, and secured the other, notwithstanding our fire.—

Last night deserted two Hanoverians of De la Motte's regiment. They escaped to the enemy from Europa Advance Guard, by means of a rope ladder, which was accidentally left by the King's workmen.

15th. This morning the enemy executed the deferter they took yesterday. All their regiments

were under arms.

19th. Garrison orders this day were as follow:

"No gun to be fired from any of the batteries at the enemy's ships, when the distance requires more than six degrees elevation, unless such ships are engaging, or in chase. Any Captain of the Royal Artillery, who may happen to be present on such occasions, will give his advice in the management of the guns, which the officers commanding guards will be justified in following."

21st. Last night failed the Buck privateer for

Mahon, wind S. W.

27th. This day the enemy began a fire upon our cutward works. They obliged the garrison gardeners,

gardeners, who work on the isthmus, or 1779 neck of land (termed the neutral ground) to Dec. retire. Several Genoese fishermen, who were dragging nets at the fea fide, was also under the necessity of retreating, leaving their nets, lines, and tackle, on the beach. A twenty-fixpound that fell at the north angle of Prince's lines; the centinel narrowly escaped. The enemy are very bufy—their approaches are in great forwardness, but are all masked; their bomb batteries appear to have no ordnance mounted, nor has it been observed that any number of men have been employed there for fome time past. We conjecture that this day is only a preface, or introduction to the grand display, and that the long boasted exhibitions are nearly ready for performance.

The enemy last night destroyed great part 28th. of our gardens, and took away lines, &c. that our fishermen left when they made their retreat yesterday. Came in a small boat from Tangier, with goats, fowls, and eggs: she immediately ran in under cover of the night. The goats fold for ten * cobbs per head; fowls three + dollars fix rials per couple; eggs, fix Also came in three deferters rials per dozen. from the Walloon guards. It is currently reported that the intelligence they bring is not altogether favourable to our wishes. We hope the fleet will shortly arrive, and that we

^{*} A Spanish dollar, value four shillings and eight pence sterling at Gibraltar, is called a dollar and a half, or 12 rials, but is of no more value.

⁺ Eight rials each, Gibraltar currency.

1779. may be enabled to give the enemy a British Dec. reception whenever they attack our walls.

The enemy continue the blockade, but keep constantly at work; their parties are very numerous, but we cannot make them desist; they have broken down all their stone guard-houses, and seem to be converting them into works of annoyance. We may expect that the ensuing year will be fertile with intelligence, and that we shall be able to give a more descriptive account of their approaches.

It is really vexing and mortifying to view the Spanish hills and heights, covered with cattle, while we can scarce procure a piece of falt beef, and that at a price, which, when told, carries with it the face of improbability.

I am, dear Brother,
Affectionately your's, &c.

LETTER V.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

Jan. 7. I AGAIN take the pen to write, though I affure you, our most sanguine hope seems entirely lost. Last night came in two deserters of the Walloon guards; from the accounts they bring, we expect to have many more months to suffer; they say that the Spaniards engaged our sleet off Cape Finister, that the English were deseated, and a great many ships captured. Yesterday arrived some fresh troops in

8th.

in their camp, and this afternoon, a small boat 1780. that made a push for the garrison, was taken Jan. 7. off Cabritta point; it is not improbable that she was detached with intelligence for this place, as she did not appear to be deeply laden.

A Neapolitan polacre, laden with barley, having approached within the reach of Europa guns, we discharged a few shot at her, and obliged her to come in; she will afford us some relief:—Admiral Barcello made a signal immediately for a frigate and a xebec to cruize to the eastward—they passed by within long gun shot of the garrison.

Several random shot from the enemy, but 11th. no material damage done; they seem to have a great inclination to begin the work.—We keep a moderate sire upon their parties and works.

The enemy continue to fire occasionally—a 12th. shot struck the parapet of the Old Mole—a 26 pound shot (the sirst sired into the garrison) went through the roof of Mr. Quartin's house, and drove a splinter into a lady's heel * who was walking in the street;—another went through a centry box in Landport covered-way: A mule belonging to the waggons employed to bring stone from the Devil's Tower, was lamed by their siring: and the enemy, in an unprecedented manner, inhumanly fired at a clergyman performing the funeral ceremony over the body of a deceased soldier.

This day the Field Officers commanding 13th. corps, affembled at Colonel Ross's quarters, to take into consideration the present situation of the garrison provisions; when it was ordered that

C

C

5

* Mrs. Hamilton.

1780. that the foldiers ration should be shortened. Jan. viz. half-pound beef, quarter-pound pork, and one pint peafe per week, deducted from each

man's allowance.

Our fituation every day appears more alarming, there being a fcarcity of almost every thing in the garrison-fire-wood a cob per hundred; flour five rials per pound; no fresh meat except an old cow, or worn-out ox, (only one perhaps killed in a month) which is fold at four and a half and five rials per pound; fowls twenty to twenty-four rials each; a goofe ten dollars; a turkey twenty dollars; eggs a cob the dozen; and every other necessary in proportion.

This morning a foldier deferted from the back of the Rock, where he was with a party cutting bushes. We fired many shots at him,

but all were ineffectual.

This afternoon, wind S. W. an English brig appeared in the Offing; she was chased by a xebec and feveral gallies, but fortunately got fafe into New Mole: She brings the joyful and happy intelligence of a fleet being within twenty-four hours fale of the garrison, with fuccours.

It is almost beyond the power of words to describe the general joy which pervaded the foldiery as well as the inhabitants upon this gladdening intelligence—even avarice and extortion feem to pause from their iniquities, and to participate the pleasure inspired by our hopes.

I am, &c.

LETTER

LETTER VL

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

h

r

h

2,

15

r

S y

y

le

y

1,

a

ot

ıI

n

h

0

le

13

X-

d

ır

R

THE garrison are all on the wing:—the 1780 found of the fleet is all that is to be heard, Jan. 16 and every rock and hill re-echoes the blissful tidings. Affection stretches forward and anticipates the pleasures of knowing the tender communications of distant friends and seperated kindred. This morning flour fold for fixpence per pound, which was some time past two ihillings, and a great favour to obtain it at that price; the shops that were shut up, are now opened, and adorned with bread, biscuit, rusk, &c. The garrison appears in an entire state of joyful commotion, and the people are fo bufy purchasing eatables, that it brings to my remembrance the festive fairs in The enemy have hung out fignal-Britain. colours from the watch-towers; not a thip nor cruizer on the opposite side attempts to move. I believe the scene is changed without, as well as within the walls. Barcello must feel, with inexpressible pangs, this sudden stroke that robs him of the hope of conquest, and compels him to view the British ensigns that bid defiance to Andalusia's thore.

Came in a deferter from the Walloon guards. Intelligence not publickly known.

Last night arrived (unmolested) a brig laden 17th. with flour; the left the British convoy two days fince, and brings word, that they have taken a Spanish convoy of one thip of the

Jan. line, five frigates, and twenty-four fail of transports, bound from Bilboa to Cadiz. We hourly wait their arrival. According to the order of the 13th instant, our ration was

stopped.

This morning came in the Appollo frigate. She brings the intelligence that several Spanish men of war got under sail from Cadiz, to engage our sleet, that the British were victorious, and that the enemy had one ship sunk, one blown up, one stranded, and four captured, glorious news!—Received half a pint of rice in lieu of pease.

19th.

h. Last night two English men of war arrived, and confirm the news above. About six this morning came in, the Phanix, a Spanish 80 gun ship, commanded by Admiral Don Langara, who received a wound in his groin during the engagement: she lost her main top-mast and other rigging during the action. The British sleet having stood too near to the Barbary shore, over-shot the bay, and drove to eastward in the night, and it is probable it will be two or three days before they can work up. The Spanish Admiral came ashore this evening.

wind E. Came in three Spanish 70 gun ships, one a Commodore, also the Guiposcoana, a 64, taken with the Bolboa convoy, and a great part of our fleet; they are so thick I cannot number them with any precision. About eleven this forenoon came in the Prince George, commanded by Admiral Digby, with Prince William Henry on board. Admirals Rodney and Ross are standing for the Rock. Our shipping have taken to the eastward two xebecs,

xebecs, and a great many settees bound for 1780 the camp of St. Roque. Prince William Henry Jan. landed, accompanied by the Admiral; the 21st. Governor received them with the warmest encomiums, and the garrison and shipping performed a salute.

The Spanish squadron, commanded by Admiral Don Juan de Langara, Gefe de Esquadra, which Admiral Rodney fell in with off St.

Mary's, are as follow:

of

C

le

as

e.

Ch

n-

S,

ne

d,

in

d,

115

in

a,

ne

rd

sh:

ry

st-

ill

rk

is

m

a,

a

I

n.

ce

th

ils

k.

VO

S,

Phænix, 80 guns.

Diligente, 70 do.

Monarca, 70 do.

Princessa, 70 do.

Princessa, 70 do.

St. Domingo, 70 do. blown up.

St. Eugenio, 70 do. taken, then abandoned

St. Julian, 70 do. stranded.

St. Lorenzo, 70 do.

St. Augustin, 70 do.

Santa Rofalia, 26 do. Santa Cecilia, 28 do. Escaped.

Last night, about eleven o'clock, the Terrible man of war, and four other ships, being
drove by the rapidity of the current, near the
enemy's forts *Phillipe* and *Negro*, they beat to
arms in their camp, and made a position of
defence; they fired 157 shot and 7 shells, but
did no other damage than killing a Spanish
prisoner on board the Terrible. This day the
Spanish Commodore landed.

Wind W. Took a fettee going to Ceuta. 23d. This day the troops received their beef and 24th. pork, stopped last week. All hands at work unloading the shipping—Several cranes have been erected from South-port to the New Mole.

The

1780 The enemy this morning fired two shot to-Jan. wards the garrison, one grazed North line. -25th. wall guard-house. About eight this morning, a corporal and five private men of the Waltoons who made a push for the garrison, were purfued by a party of horse and foot, more than half way across the isthmus—two of the men they knocked down with the butts of their firelocks, pierced them feveral times with their bayonets. The Corporal they fecured, and carried him and one of the dead bodies away in triumph. The other three efcaped the massacre, and arrived safe at Landport.

Arrived from the East this morning, Admiral George Bridges Rodney, and leveral other thips. This day we received three flags of truce, respecting the exchange of prisoners.

This morning we perceived the Spanish in-26th. fantry under arms; foon after observed a gibbet erected, and a criminal executed. It is beyond dispute, that the unhappy sufferer is the Corporal they took yesterday on the isthmus. This afternoon the Fortune cutter, under a flag of truce, conveyed the fick and wounded prisoners to the Orange Grove, where the enemy received them. Came in, and anchored in the Bay, Admiral Lockbart Rofs, with some lettee prizes taken to the ealtward.

This morning arrived from Tangier, a small 27th. boat with lemons and oranges;—a most useful article, as they are very falutary in the cure of the scurvy. Came in a Spanish brig. Four Spanish line of battle ships and a 64, are at anchor in the Bay, adorned with the British

It

enfigns.

It is easy to imagine the effect which this 1780 mortifying exhibition must have upon the Jan. mind of Don Barcello; aggravated, no doubt, 27th. by the disappointed issue to his own threats and idle vapourings.

Arrived a boat from Tangier, with a few 28th. dozen of fowls. Also a settee with bullocks and other refreshments from Tetuan. One of our frigates cruizing in the Ossing, captured a

settee bound for the camp.

This forenoon landed from 4 ships of war, the 29th. fecond battalion of the 73d regiment of foot, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel George M'Kenzie: They were under orders for Minorca, but our Governor, with the advice of the Admirals, and Field Officers, has detained them here. This afternoon, wind S. W. Commodore Eliott in the Edgar, and a frigate, gave chase to a ship off Cabritta, under Dutch colours; which, as foon as the perceived, the tacked and stood for the land; Eliott bore down up her, and quickly got within long gun-shot, when she hoisted Spanish colours, and ran ashore under Cabritta: A brisk fire ensued on both fides, in which the battery at that place took a part, but Admiral Rodney perceiving their fituation rather dangerous, hoisted a lignal for them to return. It is imagined that the was detached with instructions to Don Barcello.

The Spanish boats were yesterday afternoon 30th. employed in endeavouring to get the ship off, which they did not essect till this morning's tide. Early this morning came in three deserters from the Walloon Guards, they were naked, having swam from the foot of fort St.

B 3 Phillippe.

It

ot to-

line-

ning,

Wal-

were

more

of the

tts of

times

ey ie-

dead

ree ei-

Land-

, Ad-

other

ags of

th in-

a gib-

It is

rer is

e isth-

under

ound-

e the

hored

iome

finall

t use-

n the

brig.

4, are

ritish

ers.

1780 Phillippe. They report that the Spanish Ge-Jan. neral holds a position of defence every night, as he expects our shipping will fire upon their camp, before they leave the bay. The enemy have mounted artillery in their fourteen and feven gun batteries, and feem to have prepared to act on the defensive at their forts-We keep a moderate fire upon them, and often put their guards in disorder. Every one is amazed that the enemy do not return it, for furely they can have no hope of taking this place by famine, fince we have received fupplies from Britain; or, should they still entertain that idea, a few ships of the line stationed here may keep the communication between Tangier and the Garrison so open as utterly to defeat so indecisive a project.

I am, &c.

LETTER VII.

Gibralter.

DEAR BROTHER,

Feb. 3. THE stores and provisions being almost landed, the sleet are preparing for sea, and it is considently reported, that none of the ships of the line will be left here to guard the Bay; we may therefore conclude, that in a short time we shall experience a situation equally as distressing as that from which we have lately been relieved; for while the enemy commands a superior force in the bay, the

the war off: myion

pato pato a d loor Ger

blocat vership

defe

Roce o'cl Spa Pri fail.

em

tow in the

dor

wat

the supplies which would otherwise be for- 1.780 warded from Tangier and Tetuan, will be cut Feb. off: A few days will leave our situation no mystery.

This day all the Spanish deserters embarked on board the men of war, on their passage to England. Sailed the Childers sloop, with dis-

patches.

Came in at Landport, two private men and 5th. a drummer, belonging to the enemy's Walloon Guards; they affert, that the Spanish General has not any orders to fire, but on the defensive, and that Admiral Don Barcello has received advice from Madrid, to renew the blockade as soon as the British sleet departs, at which time he is to be reinforced with two ships of the line and several frigates.

Came in a deserter from the Walloon 10th.

guards.

This afternoon, wind E. N. E. Admiral 13th. Rodney made fignal to weigh. About twelve o'clock, the men of war, including the five Spanish ships, viz. Phanix, Diligente, Monarca, Princessa, Guiposcoana, and convoy, got under sail. Several families took this safe opportunity of slying from satigue and danger, and embarked on board the fleet. The battery at Cabritta, fired a gun to alarm the coast, which was returned at Ceuta, as our shipping stood towards that place in order to clear the land; in the evening they were all out of sight, but the enemy continued to sire alarm guns, and threw a great number of rockets from the watch towers.

The Edgar, under the command of Commodore Eliott, the Panther of 64 guns, the Enter-

1780 prize and Porcupine frigates; Gibraltar and For-Feb. 14 tune floops remain here. At Algaziras are at anchor, one ship of 70 guns, one ditto 50, one frigate, and a few xebecs. We are now able to oppose our foes on the opposite side.

Yesterday Admiral Langara, and the other officers of his fleet, were permitted to pass to

Spain on parole.

Admiral Barcello this morning hauled out to the left of the battery at Algaziras; he appears to be very bufy in getting up his top-masts and yards; some of his gallies passed to the westward. On the land side a few working parties have again made their appearance.

Nothing material has happened, for some days. The Spanish horse and infantry, have been performing their evolutions, twice every day: it is computed their number, sit for actual service, is about 17 or 18,000. Last night came in a small boat with lemons and oranges from Tangier. The enemy's gun-boats chased her under Europa, which occasioned a few shot to be discharged from that post.

This day arrived at Algaziras, from the westward, four Spanish line of battle ships,

two frigates, and one xebec.

28th. Wind W. Arrived at Algaziras, a Spanish frigate and a xebec from the westward: the frigate faluted Admiral Barcello, but no return was made. It appears as if they intended to renew the blockade.

Mar. 4. This morning alarm fignals were made at Ceuta, of the appearance of an enemy to the eastward. Wind N. N. E. Admiral Barcello immediately loosed his fore-top-sails, as a fignal to weigh. A frigate, xebec, and two gallies.

lies, made ready, and stretched across for Ceuta: soon after he followed, but had not quite Mar.
cleared Europa, when the cruizers discovered
the supposed prey to be a kebec. The wind
having shifted to the S. E. this evening, the
enemy have again anchored at their look-out
on the opposite side. Several gallies and other
small cruizers, that stole away during the continuance of our fleet, have ventured to return.

This day our cartel, under a flag of truce, 12th. received from Spain 390 British prisoners of war. They report that Spain is determined on the conquest of this place in contempt of all impediments, and that a large body of French troops are really embarked for the camp, to forward this determined object.

Last night a deserter came in from the Walloon guards. He gives an account that the
enemy suffered considerably from our fire yesterday. One shell killed and wounded 25

The Spanish squadron this morning were 19th. decorated with colours of various sorts. In the afternoon their troops in camp were arranged in three lines; the battery at Fort Negro made a triple salvo of 12 guns each time, which was answered as often by a running fire from the army. The batteries and shipping at Algaziras performed the same.

A neutral vessel was brought in by the Spanish cruizers for examination, Admiral Barcello being determined not to let a ship pass unnoticed. For these three days we have not fired much, being busily employed in strengthening

our

1780. our works, particularly those adjoining the Mar. ifthmus, as the enemy work builty on that place at the erection of new approaches.

25th. Wind W. This day arrived feveral polacres and fettees at the Orange Grove. -- We only conjecture they are laden with stores for the

camp. has solling leaved

on the opposite side. At day-break this morning a signal-gun was fired from a xebec near the point; several armed cruizers got under fail, and formed a line from the point to Ape's Hill, where, after firing a shot, they captured a settee, and brought her in, with her colours reverfed. It is imagined the had cattle on board for the garrifon, which is very much wanted, as very little fresh meat can be purchased. Our provision is chiefly falt beef and pork, and that we use sparingly, not knowing when we may receive another supply. Vegetables are scarce and dear, and of the worst fort in quality. Our barren rock yields but little; but as necessity generally adopts a remedy, many have begun to convert the folid parts of the rock into kitchen gardens, which some have effected by raifing walls one height above another, and filling the inclosed with earth. It will appear a scene of enchantment to Admiral Barcello, when he beholds the face of the dry and barren Rock in a state of vegetation.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Yours, &c.

LETTER

cite W. where the beens tacking and boyetin

LETTER VIII.

but datage stellage top Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE enemy are still forwarding their approaches, and on our part, I can assim 1780 there is no desiciency. The Spaniards must Ap. 7. sustain considerable losses in their operations, as we seldom let them rest. Our fire, of late, does not prevent them working. Judge what must be their sufferings, when we are hourly pouring upon them an incessant discharge of every kind of shot and shells.

The fufferings of the British troops at present, is from heavy duty, and the scarcity of provision. When the enemy have compleated their approaches, I imagine they will retaliate, but we are prepared to withstand their efforts.

Last night a boat was dispatched to Barbary, to learn if there were a packet, or any intelligence from Britain.

This morning, about three o'clock, the boat that was fent to Barbary, arrived fafe; she 10th. brought a packet to the General, but not any intelligence has transpired. The *Patron of the boat has refused to answer any particular questions.

Last night, wind W. arrived the Hyena frigate, in thirteen days from England. She extachanged several shot in the Gut with the enemy's xebecs. Admiral Barcello, this morning, (wind having shifted) detached a frigate to the

* The Master, called Patron by the Spaniards.

28th.

1780 the W. where she keeps tacking and hovering in the Gut.

Wind E. This morning, about nine o'clock, 20th. the Edgar and Hyena, got under weigh suddenly, and stood to the westward; the Spanish towers immediately spread the alarm, and Admiral Barcello, with three ships of the line hove out, but to his no small mortification, could not weather Cabritta, until our shipping were out of sight, as he was obliged to make several tacks in the Bay, owing to the stiff breeze.

This day Don Barcello and his fquadron, returned to their former anchorage, baffled and disappointed by the escape of our frigates.

with lemons and oranges: the crew are natives of Spain, but came in here, knowing it to be a good market.

Some time in the course of the night (which was thick and hazy) the schooner slipped out

unperceived by the enemy.

dozen of fowl: they had several cocks on board, which they were forced to kill, fearing their crowing might alarm the Spanish cruizers that cover the Bay.

May I Last night, about ten o'clock, a fire broke out in the enemy's camp, which raged with great violence for upwards of two hours.

Wind E. This day arrived a convoy from the eastward at Algaziras and Orange Grove. It has been observed that many carts are employed in carrying shot and shells from the Pier to the Artillery Park, where they are scaling their cannon; their troops appear very busy, and their motions indicate a speedy attack.

The inhabitants are beginning to erect sheds 1780 at the fouthward near Mount-Pleafant, as a re- May. treat whenever the enemy open upon us, which many are of opinion will be foon. The Spanish troops are exercised every day, and frequently fire in their camp.

Came in a boat from Tangier, with lemons, 4th. fowl, leather, and Barbary pumps. The great demand in this place for shoes, renders leather

an article of great value.

This afternoon the Spanish army were ar- 6th. ranged in two divisions, and about four o'clock began a sham fight, similar to an attack upon the garrison. One division took post on the rifing ground under the Queen's Chair (fupposed to be the British) while the other divivision, in the valley on the common, endeavoured to dislodge them, and take possession of their intrenchments: the fire was well fupported on both fides for three hours, when the British forces were entirely routed;—they had feveral field pieces, and fome cannon with them. I affure you, that the fight afforded great entertainment, and the army displayed some merit in their performance: they have been practifing feveral days. It is evident they mean to familiarize their troops to the nature of an attack, fo that they may be more expert when they make a regular affault.

This day a cartel from Spain, brought over 7th. between forty and fifty British prisoners of war: they confidently affert, that fourteen fail of the line, feveral frigates, and a number of transports with troops, were hourly expected to fail from Cadiz, but their destination was a

matter of uncertainty.

Laft

12th.

May 8. reach the garrison, only one escaped safe; three were either taken or shot by the Spanish horse patroles:—he is one of the Walloons, and says, that the Spanish General has received advice from Madrid, to sire whenever he thinks proper; two large mortars are mounted in their lines, with an incredible number of cannon. From this intelligence, we may conclude that a bombardment will shortly take place.

This day a foldier was executed in the garrison for theft. He died with great contrition and penitence, seemingly sensible of his situa-

tion and wickedness.

oth. This day the Spaniards executed two men; we suppose them to be those whom they took

on the night of the 7th instant.

11th. This day came in a deferter from Spain: he is the first native who has deserted to us. He says that the duty in the Spanish camp is incessant and fatiguing, and that cannon and mortars are mounted for the purpose of opening a fire upon us immediately.

Last night came in a boat from Tangier, with fowls, pidgeons, and leather. The enemy

chased her under the guns.

This day a Swedish ship having approached Europa, we fired a shot, and obliged her to come in; but to our great disappointment, found her cargo to consist of salt only.

This morning the Sweed sailed from hence to the west, but the Spanish cruizers afterwards took her into Algaziras for examination.

A Spanish xebec arrived at Algaziras from the eastward, towing two large gun boats.

This

This morning two boats arrived from Tun- 1780 gier, with fowls and lemons: they bring ad- May. vice, that the Fly packet-boat was, on the night 18th. of the 17th inft. cut out of the Port by the Spaniards. It appears from this circumstance, that the Moors are inclined to favour the Spanish cause, or otherwise they would not have suffered an act of this nature to be committed under the walls of their town.

Arrived this day from the West, a schooner 22d. laden with leather, butter and oil. Nothing extraordinary in the enemy's camp. Our garrison are beginning to be very sickly; the small pox rages with great violence, and carries off 18 or 20 per week, but mostly children. The enemy are very busy at Algaziras; a great many boats are every day employed from the Orange Grove to that place, but we cannot observe any thing particular they are doing. We suppose they are conveying ordnance stores for the siege.

I am your's, &c.

LETTER IX.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE cannonade is continued on the ene-June 1 my:—they are conftantly bringing down stores and ammunition to their lines, and make great progress in their approaches. 'Tis somewhat strange, notwithstanding the slaugh-

ter

4th.

7th.

1780 ter our shot and shells occasions among them,

June. that they are not disposed to retaliate.

Wind W. arrived a settee from Tangier with 11 bullocks, 13 sheep, 24 dozen fowls, and a quantity of leather, eggs, and lemons. She got in unobserved by the enemy; the wind being fresh, forced the Spanish cruizers into Algaziras.

Came in two boats with a few fowl from

Tetuan.

Last night a soldier deserted from the Molehead guard. He had not been long posted sentinel, when he lest his firelock and clothes in the box, and took his passage (naked) in the water.

6th. Came in a boat with fifteen sheep from Tangier. The Patron relates, that an English brig arrived in that Port, in eighteen days from Portsmouth, laden with butter, porter, and flour, and that the Spanish cruizers were watch-

ing her closely.

About one this morning, wind N. W. a ship was discovered standing for the New Mole; the Enterprize hailed her; when she answered, A provision ship from England; the frigate hailed again, and suspecting that she was not a friend, immediately hoisted the signal of an enemy's approach; foon after feveral more appeared keeping the fame courfe. The Enterprize difcharged a shot at the first, and the enemy finding they were discovered, took to their boats, and fet them on fire, one after another, being The garrison drums beat to nine in number. arms, and the foldiery immediately repaired to A brisk fire from the batteries their stations. and

8th.

and shipping commenced on the Spanish boats, 1780 by which they must have suffered considerably. June 7. The terrified inhabitants kept weeping with the most bitter and inexpressible anguish, expecting every minute a bombardment from the land side.

The British seamen displayed great sirmness and valour in repelling these distructive visitants. Every boat was instantly manned, and with daring resolution they steered to these slaming devourers grappling to their burning sides.—Amidst the most imminent danger and scorching heat, they towed them out of the direction of the New Mole, where twenty sail of shipping lay at anchor—three drove to the eastward.

Admiral Barcello, with his fquadron, was under fail, flattering himself, that if our shiping were not burnt, they would cut their cables and push to sea; but his stratagems were frustrated, and this morning he returned to his old station, to study more mischief.

Some time in the night came in a boat from Tangier, with fowls and leather. It was fortunate she was not fired at from the garrison, as she might reasonably have been suspected for a Spaniard.

This morning came in a privateer and a large fettee from *Portugal*, with sheep, wine, oil, and lemons. This must be an additional mortification to *Don Barcello*, notwithstanding the vigilance of his numerous cruizers to distress us, that we are so seasonably supplied by our friends.

Arrived with a fine breeze at W. two boats 10th. from Barbary—they brought 48 sheep and a few

1780 few fowls. A gun was fired from one of the June. enemy's gallies, but too late to prevent their

11th. getting in.

Last night a man on duty, at the batteries on the hill, fell from a precipice of the Rock, and was dashed to pieces. It is supposed he

intended to defert.

with 38 bullocks and 80 sheep; also a small boat with oil. These frequent supplies will enable the garrison to sustain their situation with the utmost spirit. Beef is sold for three rials, and mutton four rials per pound.

failed from Algaziras to the East; Admiral Barcello has hoisted his slag on board a xebec—We cannot conjecture what is meant by this

manœuvre.

15th. Last night sailed from the New Mole, a 20 gun ship for England, with dispatches. Wind N. E. Came in a small settee from the eastward with fruit.

with fix deferters belonging to the naval and marine fervice of the enemy: they say that our opponents are heartily tired of their situation.

Spanish frigate and three large xebecs, accom-

panied by a Moorish corfair.

20th. Came in a small boat, with a few sheep and

fowls.

22d. Last night our batteries kept a hot and incessant fire upon the enemy's working parties; they laboured uncommonly hard at their approaches, as we heard their hammers during the whole course of the night. We did not observe

observe any additional work this morning, so 1780 that we conclude they were nailing down plat-June. forms in their batteries. We continue our working parties on the fortifications, which are in extreme good condition to annoy them.

Wind E. Came in a Tartan from Minorca, with leather, wine, and charcoal. A feafonable supply—shoes being much wanted (which are sold at 20 and 22 rials per pair) charcoal is also a great acquisition, as siring is become a very scarce article; the wrecks of the sireships destroyed on the 7th instant, being almost exhausted, we shall find ourselves greatly necessitated in a short time for a sufficiency for cooking. A Portuguese sisherman, who had pulled a rib from one of the wrecks, on the morning of their destruction, and towed it to shore with his boat, received nine dollars for the small purchase. The wine also is very acceptable.

This forenoon a Spanish 70 gun ship from 24th. the East, having a British ensign on her foretop-mast-head, and a yellow flag over it, as a fignal of defiance, stretched in close towards Rosia Bay, accompanied with two frigates and a xebec, and opened their fire upon the Panther and Enterprize: our shipping and batteries gave them a well directed return, the 70 gun ship received several shot, the xebec had one of her sails damaged, and her boom carried away; three of the enemy's shot came on thore; one fell at Europa, one at the Devil's Bowling Green, and one at the New Mole .-Fifteen men were wounded on board the Enterprize frigate, by some powder taking fire during the action, nine were fent to the Naval Holpital,

.

1780 Hospital, the others remained in the ship, not

June being in a dangerous way.

This morning at two o'clock, (it being a dead calm) the enemy began to fire upon the garrison, and the shipping in Rosia Bay. —It is conjectured they were gun-boats or floating-batteries, for it being very dark, it was impossible to perceive their form. Several thot, (26lb. weight) came on thore at Southbarracks, but happily did no damage. The shipping and garrison kept up a brisk fire, the picquets of the feveral regiments were under arms, and the women and children roused, on hearing a general discharge of cannon. It is not improbable that this is a stratagem of Admiral Barcello's, to harrafs and fatigue us with repeated firings and alarms from the Bay, and then give the decifive stroke; but they have Britons to encounter. The more we feel our enemy, the more ardent are our delires to engage them.

29th. Wind W. Arrived a boat, with fundry

fmall articles, from Tangier.

30th. This day, our Town-Major (Captain Burke, 58th Regiment,) went out at Bay-side and received a * parley from the enemy. Not the least intelligence has transpired. The situation of the enemy's works and approaches, indicate a bombardment, and some imagine that articles of capitulation have been sent in for negotiation.

The enemy have for feveral days been carrying

^{*} An Officer advancing with a drummer beating, for the purpose of conveying or receiving conditions, during which time the firing on each side ceases.

ing stores in covered waggons to their lines: 1780. they keep strengthening and advancing their June. approaches; their horse and infantry are exercifing daily, and a great many men employed in and about their Artillery Park,—we can plainly perceive they have a great quantity of thot and shells piled there. With fervent wishes for your health and welfare, I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours, &c.

LETTER X.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1

2

C P

1 t 1

1

e

1

e

UR cartel, under a flag of truce, proceed- July 2. ed half way over the Bay this forenoon, and received from the Spanish cartel 100 prisoners of war, taken in the Admiral Keppel privateer. They bring information that 42 fail of French and Spanish line of battle ships, and ten bomb-ketches, have actually failed from Cadiz for this place, and that 30,000 men are within a short march of the camp of St. Roque. This makes it evident that Spain is determined if possible, to take Gibraltar, so that we may fhortly expect warm work. Some confultations have been held, but the refult is not made. public.

Last night, wind E. N. E. the Panther, Capt. 3d. Harvey, got under way with a fnoaring breeze; D 3 tome:

5th.

1780 some assirm she is gone to Tangier, for the July. preservation of the ship, others, that she has sailed for England. The report made by the prisoners received from Spain yesterday occasioned her departure. Our force is not very formidable, the Enterprize and Porcupine frigates, St. Firmin sloop, the Gibraltar and Fortune cutters, only remaining on the station.

An armed boat having come near our ships this forenoon, was fired at several times to make her sheer off. It is imagined that Don Barcello came over in her, to see what had

become of the Panther.

This forenoon, the Spaniards were very bufy in camp; feveral parties practifing their mortars. We kept up a very hot fire last night upon their parties, particularly with small shells, which are very destructive.

Last night, wind E. four old India ships failed on their passage to England. came with the fleet under the command of Admiral Rodney. Our shipping intend (as the nights are now dark) to flip out occasionally. This afternoon came in a deferter from the Walloon Guards: He fwam from a battery on this fide Port Negro—the enemy fired two thots at him. He fays, the Spaniards are meditating a vigorous storm against this place, and that on 7th of June, when the firethips were fent in, he was an afliftant gunner at the lines, where every thing was in readiness to bombard the town, in case any of those ships had dropped into the New Mole, that the matches were lighted, and only waited for the word " Fire."

Wind

Wind W. came in a packet-boat from Fare, 1780.—She lay eight days in the creeks of the Bar-July bary shore, before she could find an opportunct. Inity of getting in.—The Portuguese Captain says, it was currently reported, that the British sheet had defeated the French, on their passage to join the Spaniards at Cadiz. How far this is true, time will inform us.

The prisoners of war brought in here the ad instant, assert, that several more sireships are preparing at Algaziras and the rivers. The naval Commander on this intelligence, removed all vessels from New Mole into the Bay.

3

0

d

y

lt

h

S

e

.

e

0

,

S

t

S

C

e

d

Wind W. Arrived a boat from Tangier, 11th, with fowls. From the account she brings, we may expect no further intercourse with Barbary: The Patron says, two of our garrison boats, were chased on shore by the Spaniards, and captured in that port. The Emperor of Morocco, still winks at the hostilities committed by them, and even countenances their depredations, by permitting the Spanish boats to seize our vessels coming into Tangier; several have been taken under the walls of that place.

Several Spanish frigates and xebecs keep cruizing in the Gut, and to the eastward of the Rock. Barcello manifests great alertness.

Between one and two c'clock this morn- 17th ing, the Spanish gun-boats began an attack upon our shipping: The fire was returned by us, but it is imagined without any essect, they being imperceptible to the eye, the slash of their guns being the only object we had to direct us: Several of the enemy's shot came on shore, and a gun was dismounted on board the Enterprize frigate.

GARRISON

1780. July

GARRISON ORDERS.

Whenever there is any firing from the garrison or the enemy, or any appearance of the enemy's ships, row boats, or armed vessels approaching, the Commissioned Officers commanding guards, are to report to the Governor what they observe, and mention whether all is well on the guard.

19th. About two this morning, little wind, the enemy's gun-boats again attacked the shipping and garrison, without doing any particular damage, except rousing the wearied soldiery, and timid inhabitants from their nightly slumbers.

This day a foldier deserted from Upper Forbes's, where he was at work. He got down, by a scaling ladder, and was not discovered until he was seen running across the sands, too late to fire at him with any effect. It is not improbable but we shall be more frequently troubled with the gun-boats, as there is not the least doubt but he will inform the enemy how far their shot reaches.

23d. Wind W. Arrived a Spanish ship of the line at Algaziras—and also came in here a small boat from Faro, with lemons and onions.

24th. This day our cartel received from Spain five British prisoners of war, who were sick when the last cartel arrived.

31st. Wind E. Last night four empty transports failed from hence on their passage to England:
It is imagined the enemy did not perceive them.

them. About noon a veffel arrived from Minorca, with wine, leather, and onions; she July. narrowly escaped being taken behind the Rock—A half galley that came out to intercept her, was fired at by our batteries and shipping, which made her sheer off.

Your's, &c.

LETTER XI.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

Wind West. This morning between ten Aug. 3 and eleven o'clock, several guns were distinctly heard in the Gut; soon after, we discovered the Spanish cruizers chasing a small settee, which stood for the Bay, but before she could get under the cover of our guns, was obliged to strike. It is afferted that she was detached from Faro with the mail, the loss of which will be regretted by those persons who have been long without hearing from their friends.

Several vessels arrived from the westward at 5th. Algaziras, supposed to be laden with ordnance and military stores.

We have kept almost a constant fire upon 12th. the enemy this week past, but cannot make them desist from their labours, which they diligently attend to.

Wind

Aug. gallies and gun-boats failed from Algaziras—a small brig appeared standing for this place; the enemy began a fire upon her, both of round and grape shot, which she run through, till she got nearly within the cover of the guns at Europa, when it fell a dead calm, and to our great mortification, she was boarded and towed off by the enemy, nor could we afford her any affistance. This vessel is known to be the Dolphin, with supplies from Liston.

four vessels taken on their passage hither, viz. Dolphin, Captain Grant, from Lisbon; Sally and Raebael, Captain Hays, from London; Polly, Captain Cossin, from ditto; and Betsey, Captain Wilson, from ditto. The three latter were taken in and about Tangier-Bay, within musquet shot

of the town.

tity of fand upon their works, to prevent the penetration of our shot; their approaches are forwarded with an astonishing assiduity; we can plainly perceive that they have received a reinforcement of troops. From the progress of their operations, it is imagined, by those experienced in war, that a short period will open the grand and long expected display, wherein Britons are to become resolute performers. If intrepidity can withstand such a numerous band of besiegers, we have every hope of being victorious.

Our Governor has made great additions to our fortifications;—several new batteries have been erected upon the hill, and others planned out. Should the enemy not open

ill

till these are compleated, we shall sing to the 1780 Dons, the old song of Desiance, and laugh at their approaches.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Sincerely your's.

LETTER XII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

æ

d

e

r

re

f

ł

1

t

THIS day several large Spanish settees ar-Sept. 3 rived from the eastward, with timber and sascines, they anchored off the pier at the Orange Grove. It is conjectured they have other works in contemplation. Part of their cargo was landed this afternoon.

Last night two soldiers deserted from Middle-bill Guard; they got down the back of the Rock, which is a dreadful precipice, and sufficient to deter the most hardened.

The enemy keeps our port blockaded much closer than ever; about ten of their armed cruizers are constantly under Cabritta, some at Tarifa, about eight near Tangier, three or four at Tetuan, some at Cueta, and several at the Gut's mouth, so that it is almost impossible for any vessel to escape: The gun-boats and gallies form a chain every night from Cabritta to Europa Point, and in the morning return to their anchorage.

On

1780 On the land side the enemy are quiet, very Sept. few working parties employed, their works appear to be complete. We have not received an ox from Barbary fince June 12th, and every species of provision is now at a most extra-The fmall quantity of poultry vagant rate. in the garrifon, fells high; a turkey cock, was fold a few days ago for three guineas and a half; a goose one pound ten shillings; ducks a guinea a couple; a hen twelve shillings; eggs eight pence each; powder fugar two shillings the pound; foap one shilling and four-pence ditto, charcoal half-a-guinea for 25 lb weight, oil two shillings the pint; pork two shillings, and fix-pence the pound; fish at the rate of eighteen-pence ditto; fire-wood five shillings and fix-pence per hundred weight; tallow candles two shillings and fix-pence per pound; onions eight-pence ditto; and all other articles. proportionally dear, and fcarcely to be purchased.

From this sketch you may form an idea of our present situation, and the consequences that are to follow, if some supplies do not arrive from England.—Arrived a xebec from

the westward at Algaziras.

norca with wine, oil, fugar, honey, onions, turkeys, and other necessaries, which are fold at enormous prices; many things almost for their weight in filver.

formed out of the feveral regiments; they are to practice twice a day, under the command of Lieutenant Burleigh, of the 39th regiment.

Our

Our cartel this day received a Midshipman 1780 from Spain, a prisoner of war. It is consi- Sept. dently afferted, that the combined fleet have 23d. taken off the Madeiras, fifty or fixty fail of our outward-bound West-Indiamen, and some East-India ships, many of them already arrived at Cadiz; if the account is true, the loss will be fenfibly felt by Britain—The enemy are bufily employed in raising the *merlons of all their batteries at the lines, with fascines and fand bags, and work openly upon their +glacis. We do not fire upon them now, as we are forwarding some additional fortifications, and probably they might return the fire as they are prepared for the attack, which would greatly annoy us in our labours.

7.

S

e

.

s, f

S

4.

;

S.

-

f

S.

-

T

-

t

C

y.

r

Last night, wind E. sailed the Sally and Betsey, 25th. and another ship for England; we think they are both discovered, as the enemy threw seve-

ral rockets from their watch-towers.

Last night failed the ships Handelier and 26th. Nancy, with several women and children on board, bound for England. A cruizer under the Barbary shore, fired an alarm gun, and this morning we discovered two xebecs had pushed to the westward.

[Biscuit will be delivered to the regiments in lieu 27th, of soft bread, from Monday next, the 2d of October, until further orders.]

This afternoon a reinforcement of three 28th. large Spanish xebecs from the eastward, arrived at Algaziras. Came in a deferter from the Walloon

^{*} A part of fortification between two port-holes.

† A floping bank.

Walloon guards; he was dreffed like a farmer, fays that he was a ferjeant in the Spanish service: he is a German, speaks English and French pretty well; seems to be an intelligent man. The manner of his coming to the garrison occasions a suspicion of his being a spy; the governor has ordered him to be stationed at Windmill-bill, and not to have the privilege of walking the streets, as the other deservers have.

29th. This day an additional Spanish frigate came to an anchor at Algaziras from the West.

Wind W. The enemy this day brought into Algaziras the ship Sally and Betsey, with her enfign reversed. She sailed from here the 25th instant. It is not improbable but the other three ships have shared the same sate.

The Spaniards, availing themselves of the Oct. 1. darkness of the night, erected a breast-work on the isthmus, between Landport Gardens and the Round Tower, about 60 feet in length, being within 800 yards of our lines; and about three o'clock this morning they fet fire to our huts in the Gardens, and came undiscovered as far as Bay-side and Lower-Forbes's Guardhouses, where they hung several bundles of combustibles on the palifades to burn them down, together with machines, constructed with twelve tubes, charged with a ball cartridge; to each of which a fuze led, intended thereby to kill the guards in endeavouring to free them from the gates; the fuze did not burn to the powder, and the machines were brought in to our laboratory. The fentinels posted there did not observe them, owing to the darkness of the night, and the roaring of

the fea and wind; but as foon as the flames 1780 appeared, the guards gave them a fmart fire Oct. 1. of musquetry, which obliged them to retreat. Previous to the affair, the enemy threw a rocket at Algaziras, which was answered at their lines, when, in an instant, the blaze spread over every part of the Gardens. They had lain a train from our gates to the feveral huts in the Gardens, which foon confumed them: fortunately no material damage was done to our gates, nor any person hurt on our fide.

This day the enemy brought in, with their 2d. enfigns reversed, the Handelier and Nancy, that failed the 26th of September. Count D'Eftaing (we suppose) with several general officers from the camp, came down to the lines this forenoon. He was faluted at Fort-Negro with 15 guns on his return to the camp, from whence he proceeded, accompanied with a great many boats, to Algaziras, where the thipping faluted him. The deferter who came in on the 29th last month reports, that the Count was expected in the Spanish camp when he left it, and added, that feveral French regiments were preparing to reinforce the Spanish army next spring, though they flattered themselves at St. Roque, that the garrison would be in their hands much fooner.

Last night we fired at the enemy's breast- 3d. work, an incredible number of fmall shells, and several carcasses, but we do not perceive any particular damage done.

GARRISON

1780 Oct. 3.

GARRISON ORDERS.

If the enemy approach towards any of the posts, and at all times where there is any firing, or any thing extraordinary happens in the night, reports are immediately to be sent to the Governor, and the Field Officer of the day, and notice given to the adjacent posts. In case of a sudden attack, upon any of the posts, the Officer commanding there, will make such a disposition for the defence of his post, as the nature of the attack may seem to him to require.

About eleven o'clock last night, there was a great deal of siring at the entrance of the Bay; and this morning we perceived the enemy in possession of a cutter, with a Spanish

enfign above the English.

of war, but they only received the women, children, and invalids—the feamen were detained. What the Spaniards mean by this, is not known: if they mean to starve us into a surrender, they should send every man they take prisoner; for the more we have to maintain, the sooner will our provisions be confumed.

7th. This day the Town-Major went out on the isthmus with a parley; the sentinel at the advanced work, at first opposed his passing, but after some deliberation, accompanied him as far as the Round Tower, where an officer came to receive the letter, but looked very sullen, not being pleased with having their works examined. It seems they have good covering for their men there.

Laft

Last night the enemy raised the merlons of 1780 their batteries at the lines, about two feet Oct. higher.

GARRISON ORDERS.

As,

iny rts

the

admy

vill

oft,

re-

vas

the

ne-

is/b

ers

en,

deis

o a

ney

in-

on-

the

ad-

out

as

me

en,

ex-

ing

aft

The men to receive to-morrow, two pound of falt 8th. fish, one ditto of pork, and half a pound of beef.*

Wind E. This morning early, a small settee 11th. arrived with supplies from Minorca, and the Patron having intimated that two others were flanding for the Rock, our boats went out with an intention to affift them, but no fuch veffels appeared; however a Danish dogger, in company with a Dutch convoy, having come pretty near Europa Advance, which the could not fee on account of a thick fog; our boats boarded and brought her in. She proves to be from Malaga, bound to Copenhagan, laden with lemons, oranges, railins, &c. which articles being deemed very wholesome for the troops, especially the sick, the Governor ordered her cargo to be landed. An attempt was also made by our boats upon a Dutch ship, but on account of the fire from the frigate of the convoy, was compelled to delift.

Last night a soldier attempting to desert to 12th. the enemy, from Middle-bill Guard, fell from the heights, and was dalhed to pieces at the foot of the Rock. One would imagine it to be madness in a person to endeavour to escape that way, as the precipices of the Rock are fo theep, that the very idea to a rational man,

would deter him from fuch a proceeding.

E Two

^{*} A great part of which is quite rotten, particularly the falt fish.

Oct. feveral mornings appeared off the Old Mole16th. Head (at long-gun-shot distance) and row
gently along in a line opposite the King'sBastion, as if they were sounding: they prevent our sishing boats from going to their
usual posts. Yesterday and this day, a large
body of the enemy were busily employed in
levelling a piece of ground on the east side of
the first guard-house near Fort Phillippe. Our
engineers are of opinion they are going to
erect a battery there.

18th. The enemy's gun-boats, yesterday and this day, fired on our sishing-boats, and obliged them to come in. It is evident their intention is to prevent the supply of sish, as well as meat. The ordnance mounted in these boats, discharge shot 26lb. weight, and are of great annoyance. They are able to attack a ship of

force in a calm.

with variety of articles. The gun-boats fired feveral shot at the St. Fermin sloop, which she returned, but the enemy did not do any damage to her or the garrison.

We have these several nights, at intervals, discharged *light balls on the isthmus, to discover if the enemy's parties were working, which the Spanish soldiers often extinguish by cover-

ing them with fand.

GARRISON

Some cast in lead, and some made of strong paper, filled with a composition, which while it burns, gives a sufficient light to observe the enemy's motions.

GARRISON ORDERS.

fe

le-

·s-

e-

ge

of

ur

to

115

ed

at.

lif-

eat

of

on,

ed

he da-

uls,

co-

ch

er-

N

er.

es a

1780

Issues of provision for the next month, commencing Oct 19 23d of October, and ending 19th Nov. 1780.

MEN PER WEEK.

Beef, one pound; pork, one ditto; peafe, one pint; oatmeal, one ditto; butter, two ounces and half; *wheat, one pint and half; flour 3-4ths of a pound; raisins, half a pound; kidney beans, one pint; vinegar, quarter of a pint, in lieu of three pints of pease, and seven ounces butter.

Wind S. E. This morning arrived and anchored under Europa Advance, not being able to get round the Point, a small boat with wine and other necessaries from Algiers. The Spanish General sent in a parley this forenoon, wherein it is signified that he will not any longer communicate by land, and appointing Flags of Truce to meet in the Bay, whenever necessary.

This morning the weather being more calm, 22d. our boats brought round the settee that anchored under the Advance yesterday. About sour this afternoon, three of the enemy's gunboats saluted the Enterprize, with their 26 pounders, which she returned:—the battery at the Mole and South Bastion fired several E 2 rounds

* The provision is getting very unfit for use, and the wheat delivered to the troops is of no service, as the infide is destroyed by insects, and only the integument remaining.

1780 rounds at them, which made them take a hasty Oct. farewell. Several of their shot came on shore.

27th.

This morning we perceived that the enemy had extended their advance work (now termed the Tower Battery) several yards. We fired many shells, but without success, as most of them fell wide of the work; the Spanish soldiers encouraged by this, came out and exhibited tokens of desiance, but a round of well-directed grape shot from Willis's, soon made them forget their pastime. They are still employed on the work adjacent to St. Phillippe, and have begun to make a battery at Cabritta Point, either to protect their cruizers which anchor there, or to annoy our shipping passing by.

31st.

We continue to keep up a fire upon the enemy on the isthmus, which has greatly prevented their carrying on their works; they have not made any addition fince the 26th. Last night two soldiers that were sentinels at Upper Forbes's, got down by means of a rope, and deserted. The intelligence they may convey to the enemy, will be far from agreeable to their wishes: to hear that the British troops are in high spirits; that our batteries are in excellent order, and well surnished with artillery, will have a greater tendency to discouragement than martial animation.

The difficulties still to be encountered, and the impending danger which hang over our heads, seem to make no other impression on the soldiery, than to stimulate them to laborious exertions, and to make them look forward to that same and glory which is to be

acquired. I remain yours, &c.

LETTER

LETTER XIII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

ty

ny n-

ed

of

olni-

11-

de

n-

be,

ta

ch

ng

le-

re-

ey.

h.,

at

e,

n-

ole

ps in

u-

nd ur

on

00-

or-

be

R

OUR situation still remains the same; the 1780 enemy working, and we siring: Admiral Nov. 1 Barcello, with an unexampled strictness, continues to guard the entrance of the Bay; even neutrals are not allowed to pass without examination. A snow who kept company with a French convoy which passed to the eastward, and made a sudden push for Europa, was taken to the southward of the Point, and carried into Ceuta. This day we fired several well-directed shells into the Tower Battery, where we heard men at work.

Last night two soldiers deserted from the 2d. garrison; they got down by a rope at Zoca battery, stripped, and took to the water. The enemy worked very hard till near twelve o'clock, when they were forced to leave off on account of our fire.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The regiments to be served with soft bread on Monday next.

Last night, between seven and eight o'clock, 8th. the enemy's cruizers fired at a vessel standing for the Bay, with the wind at west; the sire was returned by her, and soon after we heard an explosion of powder, so that we conclude, either the vessel or a Spanish cruizer blew up.

E 3 The

10th.

Nov. The enemy labour much at their advanced Nov. works, and notwithstanding these moon-light nights, and our frequent sire, they have extended their approaches towards the western shore. One of the bodies of the two soldiers that deserted the 2d instant, was found floating under the line-wall; another corpse was seen taken up on the strand, near Fort St. Phillippe.

Last night arrived a settee, with wine and sundry articles from Faro. The Governor does not permit any of the people that come to the garrison, either from East or West, to land, until the Product-master has given them instructions with respect to the intelligence.

they may bring.

the batteries that could bear upon the ifthmus and lines, till after midnight. It is reported that feveral carts and working-parties were advancing, but it would be an impossibility for the enemy to execute any business under so brisk a fire.

wind N. W. This morning early, we discovered a small sail under the Barbary shore—three of the enemy's gun-boats set out from Cabritta Point, and as soon as they came near enough began to sire upon her, which she returned faintly, but kept standing her course; the boats as a fraid to board her, two xebecs stretched down upon her, and sired a broad-side or two without doing any execution: the boats continued their sire until she got under the garrison guns, when our batteries at Europa and Buena-Vista, played so briskly, that they found it prudent to chace her no longer. She proves

nced

ight

ex-

tern

diers

loat.

was

t St.

and

rnor

come

t, to

them

cence.

m all

nmus

orted

were

y for

er io

e dif-

ore—

from

near

ne re-

urie;

road-

: the

under

uropa

they

roves

She

proves to be the Young Sabine, Captain McClorg, 1780. from London, in 18 days, with flour and other Nov. necessary articles, burthen 200 tons, and ten men. She was greatly damaged, and her sails almost torn to pieces, having received 29 shot which struck her in different parts during the action:—She had only one man slightly wounded.

This morning a Minorca settee arrived without any interruption, from among several Spanish cruizers, who took her to be one of their own vessels, till they saw her stand in.

Last night came in a settee from Malaga 14th, with fruit only—the Spanish cruizers convoyed her nearly under our guns, by means of a bribe, as the Patron relates, but we are rather suspicious of her being sent in by Barcello, to view our situation and learn the state of the garrison.

This morning a Tartan, a little to the east-ward of the Rock, made a signal for assistance, but on account of the current, our boats could not weather round: she got almost under Europa guns, where she was boarded by a Spanish lugger's boat, but the crew made their escape in their own boat, and came in: she was from Minorca with supplies. The enemy are working day and night, and we keep siring as briskly.

Sale Prices of Provision, arrived here with Captain McClorg:

Flour, per barrel - - £.3 12 0

Cork butter, per pound - 0 2 9

Gloucester cheese, ditto - 0 2 4

Hams, ditto - - 0 2 4

Bacon,

1780	Bacon, ditto per pound	•	0	2	4
Nov.	Coals, per chaldron -	•	14	14	0
14th.	Herrings, per barrel -	•	4	0	0
	Candles, per pound -		0	I	4
	Porter, per hogshead		6	10	0
	Rum, per gallon	-	0	18	0

This is a specimen of the prices as they are fold in lots by auction, but the buyers who retail them again make almost cent. per cent. You may therefore judge how those are situated who are obliged to purchase from the retailers.

About eight this morning, the Malaga settee received an order to leave the harbour, as the General entertains a doubt of her friendship.

feveral guns were brifkly fired towards the entrance of the bay, and continued firing for the space of half an hour; and this morning we perceived the enemy in possession of a brig, which we suppose to be an English vessel from the westward.

The enemy's gun-boats, yesterday evening, arranged themselves in the bay, when on a signal from Fort-Negro, they opened their sire towards the Rosia, the shipping off Ragged-staff, and Saluting-Battery, which was as freely returned by the garrison and men of war; most of their shot came on shore, but did no considerable damage. This attack greatly facilitated their operations on the isthmus; for while our attention was directed towards their gun-boats, the enemy by land were assiduously employed in strengthening their advanced works and Tower-battery, for at day-break this morning

morning, we perceived some thousands of sand 1780 bags piled on their approaches, which will afford them the greatest cover from the fire of our batteries on the height. This well-planned operation gained them a considerable acquisition, and will much forward their ensuing labours.

Notwithstanding our heavy fire last night, 18th. the enemy extended their approaches considerably. They have begun forming a trench towards the Centre-stone Guard-House on the isthmus, to cover their men passing to and from the Tower-Battery.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Provisions from the 20th November to the 17th December.

MEN PER WEEK.

Beef, one pound and half; Pork, one ditto; Pease, one pint; Oatmeal, one ditto; Wheat, one ditto; Flour, 3-4ths pound; Raisins, half ditto; Rice, half pint; Butter, two ounces and half; Vinegar, 1-4th pint.

Seven pound Bread served weekly to officers and men.*

The enemy, last night, again saluted us with 19th.

a liberal discharge of twenty-six pounders, directed

* Though this allowance of Bread may be confidered as sufficient, yet it being composed of ground Pease, Oatmeal, and damaged Wheat, without being sifted, a small quantity will weigh a pound, nor is it satisfying to men who perform constant laborious operations.

Nov. King's, and Montague's Bastions, and Saluting Battery, opened upon them with the greatest fury, and continued firing upwards of an hour—During the action, a gun unfortunately burst upon the King's Bastion, which killed the Bombardier of the detachment, and wounded another man—The head and thigh of the former was tore off—several pieces of the gun slew into the centre of the town, but happily did no mischief.

GARRISON ORDERS.

20th. No lights to appear towards the Bay, in any bouse, barrack, guardhouse, or other building, aster seven o'clock at night.

ly exhibitions—they did not injure us much by their fire last night. This day a soldier was missing, but not from any post on duty.

visited us with their usual generosity; but most of their shot fell short, so that the garrison and shipping made no return. The enemy, it is imagined, misjudged the distance, not seeing any lights on shore, agreeable to the orders of the 20th inst.

proaches, several parties employed in bringing down to their lines, fascines, gabions, empty casks, &c. They have begun a passage towards the garrison, and made a sortee between the seven and sourteen gun-batteries:

—We annoy them as much as possible, with our small shells, during their nightly labours, for

for in the day time they do not carry on any 1780 visible work. In fearching after a soldier, Nov. who has been missing since the 21st inst. (supposed to have deserted) the skeletons of two men were found behind the Rock—A warning to the inconsiderate from attempting to desert.

The gun-boats attacked us again last night 25th.—the Enterprize returned a few shot, but the garrison was silent, except towards the isthmus, where a general discharge of ordnance continued during the night. We set fire to part of their works, but not essectually; the enemy, however, extended their approaches some yards. The work on the strand, near Fort Phillippe, is now completely sinished, being a battery of 12 guns, constructed for the annoyance of our shipping, between Ragged Staff and New Mole.—It appears to be about 12 or 14 feet high, and according to our opinion, well executed.

The enemy's gun-boats generously gave us a few rounds; they fired several of their shot into the town, without doing any mischief.—one fell into the Product-Master's quarters, behind King's bastion. Our shipping, yesterday, hauled into New Mole;—many are of opinion they have some intimation of a speedy attack, and others, that it is to prevent being so much exposed to the enemy's gun-boats. The Spanish approaches were much sorwarded last night; the centinels at the Tower battery yesterday, fired several musquet shot at our gardeners, outside of Landport: they have plundered the gardens every night of late, but now, in the most audacious manner, they

26th.

30th.

1780 come forward in the day time to gather vege Nov. tables—We occafronally fire wall-pieces, grapethot, and small shells, but they seem so resolute, that all our efforts to make them defift cannot intimidate them. Several men have been feen to fall at the Tower battery, but we have not been fortunate enough to hit any of those that come forward—the walls of the wells in the

gardens afford them excellent thelter.

The Danish dogger that our boats brought 29th. in on the 11th of October failed yesterday for St. Ubes:—the Spanish cruizers picked her up, and carried her into Algaziras. The enemy's approaches are forwarding with an incredible rapidity. General Alvarez, who commands in the camp, visits the lines and forts once or twice a week-we know him by his uniform and fuite, on which occasion we never fire into the Spanish lines—this is being politically complimentary.

> This morning came in a Spanish polacre, with fhoes, leather, filk, &c. on board—she was taken to the eastward by the Anglicana priva-

teer which is expected hourly.

Yesterday the remaining Spanish frigates, that were at Algaziras, failed to the west, so that the only ship of force which occupies that place is Barcello's xebec.—Two firefhips have been brought out of Guadaranque river, and anchored at the Orange Grove; feveral more are getting ready in the rivers, and some at Algaziras. It is probable that the enemy have received an account of our fleet being on its passage, and are preparing for their deftruction.

I remain Your's, &c.

LETTER

LETTER XIV.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

A MIDS T impending dangers, heavy la-1780 bours, perpetual alarms, conftant watch-Dec. 1. ings, lively hopes and expectations, I fnatch a few moments to devote to your fervice. The period for the celebration of immortal victo-RY or DEATH, hourly awaits us, and the glories and pomp of battle, in folemn steps approach: martial honours excite to valour, and the consideration of Britain's cause invigorates each bosom to repulse the combined arms of imperious Gaul, and proud Iberia, which glitter and adorn the Spanish plains.—

Although the god of war with afpect grim, Exulting, strides around our batt'ring Rock, And slaughter, with voracious jaws extended, Waits with impatience for the long-wish'd prey.

This forenoon fignals were made at the Spanish watch-towers of an enemy being to the eastward—a ship appeared standing for the rock, chased by two xebecs; two gun boats pushed out from Algaziras, and soon got near her—a fire immediately commenced between them, and continued till she came under Europa guns, without doing each other much damage. She proves to be the Anglicana letter of marque, of 26 guns, and 80 men, from Smyrna laden with silk. A small xebec was carried into Algaziras, with a Spanish ensign above

1780. above the English, many are of opinion that she Dec. was a Minorca vessel bound for this place.

3d. Yesterday evening we had a violent storm of hail, rain, lightning and thunder—it did not reach the Spanish camp, or they must have suffered considerably. Arrived a Spanish frigate at Algaziras.

4th. Wind. E. Last night, with a stiff breeze, the Anglicana sailed from hence, on her passage to England.—The Governor forwarded an express by her, and embarked a few worn-out soldiers.

The weather having proved rainy and boif-5th. terous these three days past, the enemy have not been able to execute any work on the ifthmus, nor has any of their cruizers made their appearance in the Bay. The Governor has ordered the pavement of the streets to be dug up as far as Southport: one hundred and ten inhabitants, (befides the foldiery) are employed in this work, viz. fixty Roman Catholics, thirty Jews, and twenty British; the stones are thrown over the line wall. The intention of this is, to prevent the havock that would enfue from the explosion of the enemy's shells, whenever they open from their batteries, as the weight with which they fall buries them under the furface of the ground, and when they burst, they scatter whatever is near them for feventy or eighty yards around.

The enemy worked very hard last night, and greatly forwarded their approaches:—
This morning they fired very brisk on our gardeners, who were forced to retire. A frigate from the west has anchored at the other

side.

8th.

We

0

tl

C

T

W

e

ft

fi

tl

fi

h

21

tl

tl

2

We fired this morning by way of experi- 1780 ment from Old Mole Head, fix ten-inch shells Decout of howitzers, one of which penetrated into 9th. the centre of the Tower battery, which set it on fire, but the Spaniards very soon extinguished it.

The wind blowing strong E. and the sea too rough for the gun-boats, three settees arrived from *Minorca*, and a brig from *Leghorn*, with wine and other necessaries. None of the

Spanish cruizers attempted to stir.

The enemy's covered-way is greatly extended, a few nights more will bring it home to the *Tower* battery. The garrifon keep a conftant cannonade on the *Spanish* working parties

from the heights of Willis's.

The enemy's covered-way is not yet compleated, owing to the rough and rainy weather; they have extended it very near the East line of their advanced work. This morning five pieces of cannon were laid in the sand behind the Old Mole. They have an elevation of 45 degrees, and it is imagined they will send shot (red hot) into the enemy's encampment and Artillery Park.

Last night the enemy compleated their covered-way: they have brought it close home to
the East angle of the *Tower* battery—The weather having proved calm, the *Spanish* cruizers

again cover the face of the Bay.

The enemy last night began another line of 16th. approach, extending from the lest of the Tower battery, towards the Centre-Stone Guard-house.

GARRISON

1780 Dec. 16th.

23d.

GARRISON ORDERS.

10

y

01

hi

p

In

te

th

in

de

m

bo fac

Spa

and

no

ion

gra

for

wit

not

det

nex

tho

will

hav

to

The issues of provision for the next month, to be the same as last, except that only one week's outmeal, at a pint each ration, can be spared, to leave the usual supply for the hospitals.

17th. The enemy extended their approaches some yards last night, and we, with our usual liberality of shot and shells, repaid their labours.—Several settees, and polacres arrived from the

East at Algaziras.

from the Offing for near an hour, which proved to be the Speed-well cutter, with dispatches from England, engaging a xebec, which was under the necessity of putting into Ceuta to repair her damages; the Speed-well got safe into New Mole, the intelligence brought by her is at present kept secret.

Arrived the Hannah privateer, from England, with cheefe, beef, pork, butter, &c.—a very good fupply. It must fensibly aggravate Admiral Barcello, notwithstanding the attention and alertness of his armed boats and cruziers,

that vessels do frequently drop in here.

25th. This day the deserter that came in the 28th of September was sent to the Provost, he being, from indubitable facts, proved a spy. Several writings were found in his possession, inscribed to a Spanish officer, together with a plan of the garrison sewed up in a coarse cloth. Among other passages he says, that, "Between the Advance and Dead-man's bole, the shore is so bold, that they may bring their shipping close

to the Rocks, and land the men from off the 1780 yards; and, after this is done, to take possession Dec. of the travelling pieces of cannon on Wind-millhill, draw them to the South-parade, and cannonade the town." Came in last night, the fnow Kitty and Polly from Liverpool, with butter, flour, cheese, and potatoes; the latter sells at fix rails per pound. Deserted a soldier in the night.

This day two Moorish vessels were carried 29th. into Algaziras; it is conjectured they were deftined for this place.

This forenoon a fettee belonging to the ene- 30th. my was becalmed off Europa, and our boats went out and boarded her-the crew escaped. -She had two pigs and fome empty casks on board. It is some time since we had the fatisfaction to hoift the English colours over the Spanish.

This morning a Tartan, laden with brandy 31st. and fugar, came in from Minorca. She brings no particular intelligence. Last night a serjeant deserted from the back of the Rock. No reafon can be affigned for his committing this difgraceful act.

The enemy keep attentively at work, and forward their approaches and covered retreats with the utmost spirit; their loss of men does not discourage their operations—they seem determined to capture Gibraltar. Probably the If they next year will decide the contest. should be successful, and take the garrison, it will be a victory worthy of record; but we have not the least idea of this nature, our bat-

teries

1780 teries are so well mounted with heavy ordnance, Dec. and manned with Britons, that the name of 31st. being conquered only excites a desire for action.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours, &c.

LETTER XV.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

Jan. OUR prospect is but gloomy; the enemy are very busy, and are still forwarding toth. works of annoyance. It is conjectured as soon as the bomb-battery on the isthmus is completed, that the action will begin; which I doubt not will terminate with glory to Great Britain.

This day, under flag of truce, the two Moorish gallies, that arrived the 29th of last month, were conducted from Algaziras to this place; they have brought Consul Logie, and the British families and Jews from Tangier. We learn that hostilities are commenced by the Barbarians against us, and that the Emperor of Morocco has fold the ports of Tangier and Tetuan to his Catholic Majesty; by this means the enemy conclude Gibraltar must be their own, for that famine will compel us to capitulate.— I hope their expectations will be frustrated, and that,

that, in spite of the united efforts of our foes, 1781 the British ensigns will continue flying here. Jan.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The centries on the sea-line are not to suffer any 14th, person to land under any part of the line-wall, or upon the rocks towards the southward, or to remain on shore there after first gun-sire, but to fire upon whoever they may discover, either on shore, or attempting to land after that time.

Last night a Spanish frigate was drove by a 15th. storm under our walls, the garrison took her for an English vessel, therefore did not fire upon her; a heavy rain and a thick haze coming on she escaped, and at day break we perceived her at anchor near the Orange Grove, in distress. The two Moorish gallies sailed from hence to the west.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Ration of provisions from the 15th of January, till the 11th of February.

MEN PER WEEK.

Bread, seven pounds; Beef, one ditto; Pork, one ditto; Pease, one pint; Butter, two ounces and a half; Cheese, six ounces, in lieu of half a pound of Beef. The small articles the same as last month.

Wind W. This morning arrived a brig 16thfrom the Madeira Islands with 80 pipes of wine. She was drove from her moorings in a storm, F 2 with 18.

1781 with only fix hands on board—Her cargo will Jan. prove a useful supply, and it is much wanted.

Wind W. S. W. Last night came in the Tartar privateer, from England, with dispatches from Government—the had a passage of fixteen days, and brings the intelligence that hostilities are commenced against the Dutch.-She had the good fortune to capture four Dutch vessels on her passage, and carried them into Portugal. The Enterprize frigate lying in the New Mole fired feveral that at her, suspecting her to be an enemy, as she stood towards the bottom of the Bay, our former anchorage, but on her hailing in English the firing ceased-

happily no damage was done.

General Eliott has ordered letters of marque to be iffued against the Dutch, in the manner of those granted against France and Spain. The garrison received the above account with univerfal fatisfaction; the officers and every individual feemingly felt a martial pleasure upon the occasion. Whether from it being the anniverfary of Her Majesty's birth-day, or from this piece of information, the royal standard was hoisted, and a rejoicing observed by the garrison, shipping, boats, &c. by a discharge of cannon at one o'clock—the feamen manned and cheered, and the land-batteries faluted the enemy's works with ball.

This morning, foon after day-break, the ferjeant commanding the Bay-side (a detached guard) jumped over the pallifadoes, and walked gently on towards the enemy's works, feemingly undetermined, whether to go forward, or return to the garrison. The sentinels

discharged

d

W

fo

th

ea

15

W

po

pr

01

lia

fri

no

en

ers

tu

no

fol

Ta

bri

Pol

fro

Th

five

hea inte

23d.

discharged their musquetry, but it is uncertain 1781 whether any of them took effect. Jan.

Last night, with a stiff breeze at N. W. the Young Sabine and the Hannah privateers sailed for Minorca. Admiral Barcello having missed them this morning, detached a frigate to the east, under all the sail she could croud, but it is not probable she will be able to come up with them, they being near twelve hours sail a-head.

Yesterday evening, a soldier deserted, sup- 25th.

posed from the heights of the Rock.

Wind S. E. Arrived the Tartar, a French 28th. prize, of 26 guns, from Leghorn, with wine, oil, brandy, &c. She picked up at fea the Brilliant's long-boat, which makes us imagine that frigate was forced to the eastward, with a strong northerly wind.

Wind E. Last night failed the Tartar priva-29th. teer, that arrived here on the 18th inst. The enemy threw several rockets from their towers, and this morning we observed a xebec returning from the Gut without her prey. On the land side the enemy continue their labours, nor are we negligent in annoying them. Three soldiers are missing, supposed to have deserted.

Wind S. E. Arrived a large fettee and a 30th Tartan from Minorca, with wine, &c. They bring word of the Brilliant's fafe arrival in that port.

Wind S. W. Yesterday evening sailed a brig 31st. from hence, bound to *Mahon* with supplies. The enemy extended their approaches about sive yards last night, and threw up several heaps of sand.—Some infantry have marched into their camp, reported to have landed at

Cadiz.

Jan. but his cruizers frequently come over to peop at our works, and observe the situation of our navy.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Your's &c.

LETTER XVI.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

Feb. 1. NOTWITHSTANDING every effort, and the most studious inventions of annoyance that possibly could be adopted or executed, we have hitherto found ourselves inadequate to retard the progress of the enemy's operations; and to do justice to our assailants, they have invariably, from the period of their first labours, to the present forwardness of their approaches, shewn a martial spirit, and undaunted resolution.

The enemy extended another branch of their approach last night, composed of fascines and sand-bags. We fired in the course of an hour 500 round of shot and shells. This morning a soldier deserted from the garrison.

our men of war's boats went round to the back of the Rock this forenoon, where they found the bodies of the foldier missing yester-

day,

day, and the serjeant mentioned 31st of De- 1781 cember last, both in a shattered condition. It Feb. is astonishing, notwithstanding the tremendous instances so frequently exhibited, they have not sufficient terror, to prevent men from en-

deavouring to escape to the enemy.

This morning at day break, came in a defer-8th. ter from the enemy:—He fays, "That the Spanish General has received an order to recall the working parties, in consequence of a proposition made to the Court of Great Britain, of six millions of money, and a free trade for the garrison." There is not any reliance placed upon his intelligence. If such an order had been received, General Alvarez would have communicated it to the Garrison. The working parties are not very numerous, or else they keep much under cover.

Wind E. Arrived the Salisbury privateer, 11th. from Minorca—A large xebec, and several gallies endeavoured to slip between her and the

land.

The enemy appear to be in motion on the 14th. opposite side: several signals hung out from their watch towers, and their cruizers are returning to the bay. We are in hopes that the British sleet are not far off.

Wind N. W. Passed by about thirty sail of 15th. neutrals; there being a thick haze we could not perceive whether they were ships of force. We suppose the signals made yesterday was occasioned by their appearance off the coast,

GARRISON ORDERS.

Ration of Provision from Feb. 12, to March 11,

1781 Feb.

MEN PER WEEK.

Bread, seven pounds; Beef, one ditto; Pork, one ditto; Butter, two ounces and half; Oil & pint; Cheese, six ounces; pease one pint; Beans one ditto; Wheat, one ditto; Rice, six ounces; Raisins, six ounces.

18th. Wind strong E. About 11 o'clock last night, the Salisbury got under sail:—None of the enemy's cruizers were out on account of

the stiff breeze and rough sea.

in four days and a half, with flour, wine, fugar, and brandy. Two xebecs in vain attempted to approach her as the wind blew very ftrong from the land. She brings intelligence that the French had blockaded Minorca.

21st. Last night came in another brig from Minorca—It must greatly chagrin Admiral Barcello to view the shipping drop in so providentially, and he incapable of detaching his cruizers to the east.—Very stiff breezes have continued since

the 18th inft. at E. and N. E.

27th. Last night a brig with four Genoese on board slipped over from Algaziras with a few trisling articles. The manner of her coming, and the smallness of her cargo, rather excites a suspicion. The Governor, ever attentive to the safety of the garrison, and doubting the real intention of the crew, has ordered a guard to mount on board her daily, until the affair is more thoroughly investigated.

28th. Last night under a very brisk fire, the enemy threw up a great quantity of sand upon their

fascine

ti

0

T

P

th

pe

m

ac

ce

an

fu

de

te

fascine works. It is supposed their approaches 1781 are about twenty feet high. We this day di-Feb. rected our fire to the west entrance of the 28th. lines, as many covered carts were observed passing there.

This month has closed without indulging our expectations of success, but the events of it do not dispirit our hopes of happier conse-

quences to our future efforts.

LETOTER XVII, In accord

incours going in a coming our of the com-

where the research of the state of the state

and research and the state of the second state of Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER, all desired beds houstke sill

A R T and Ingenuity are with us fo pervert- Mar. A ed from all benevolent exertions, that one would be induced to suppose from the destructive nature of our experiments, that the ruin of man was the fole purpose of their efforts. The over-ruling necessity which orders our preparations for war and havock, cannot rob the mind of its distrers on contemplating the lamentable occasions which render indifpensible Quadrants, Spirit-levels, and instruments of various forms and machinery, which adorn the batteries, for the more exact and certain method of killing. Every one feems anxious to find out the fafest, quickest, and furest method of dispatch, in the elevation and depression of the ordnance. I suppose in a few weeks more practice, they will be fo expert

Mar. 5 raise his head above the epaulement,* it will be immediately severed from his shoulders; for an emulative spirit has dispersed itself to such a pitch among our artists, that almost every day produces some new contrivance for the promotion of slaughter!

Wind E. Last night arrived a settee from Minorça, with sundry useful articles for the garrison; the Patron relates, that three French frigates are cruizing off the harbour to prevent succours going in or coming out of that place.

came to relieve the old Landport guard, a foldier on duty there jumped over the pallifadoes near the gate, and ran off. The feveral guards fired 1143 musquet shot at him, beside grape. He entered the Spanish lines with every demonstration of joy, waving his hat.

Yesterday and this day we had several hours artillery-practice on the batteries at the enemy's works; with the new-invented Quadrants and Levels:—the ordnance was well directed—much success is promised from the merit of the several instruments under trial. The enemy, with great earnestness, became spectators from Forts St. Phillippe and Barbary, as our guns only played upon the advance-works on the isthmus.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The rations of provisions from the 12th of March to the 8th of April, the same as last month, except that no wheat will be delivered.

Wind

* A part of fortification, which covers breaft-high, composed of earth, gabions, &c.

7th.

Wind E. Came in a polacre and a Tartan, 1781 from Minorca, with wine and brandy; the March latter received several shot from one of the 16th. enemy's galleys that endeavoured to cut her off.—The French continue the investment of Minorca.

The enemy on the land fide are attentive to their operations, which we endeavour to check by a finart fire; we suppose they are mounting ordnance in their advanced works. Yesterday a soldier deserted from the garrison.

Arrived a Tuscan polacre, and the Tartar 18th. cutter from Minorca, with brandy and carravances.—A xebec stood over from Ceuta, but too late to prevent their entrance.

Yesterday evening, the Tuscan polacre sailed 22d. on her passage to Lisbon, but the enemy took her in the night, and this morning carried her into Algaziras.

Came in a half-xebec (a prize) taken by one 26th. of the Minorca privateers. She fays the French frigates so closely watch the entrance into that harbour, that it is almost impossible for a vessel coming in or going out, to escape. The French naval force is too powerful at Mahon for the British to attack them.

ď

10

22

nd

gh,

Last night (Wind W. N. W.) the Enterprize 29th, frigate sailed from hence on her passage to Minorca. The repeated intelligence of the French having blockaded that Port, occasioned her departure, and we slatter ourselves when she arrives there, our force will be equal to theirs; the Brilliant and Minorca frigates being already on that station.—This forenoon, a brig, half-bay over, was taken by the enemy's cruizers; the crew, being nine in number, escaped in a boat;

March had twice put to fea, but was forced to return, owing to bad weather, and contrary winds."

They brought some poultry in their boat, which will afford them a present supply; the fowls sold for four dollars each, equal to twelve shillings and nine-pence; pigeons, three dollars per couple, equal to nine shillings and seven-pence; ducks, eight dollars four rials per couple, equal to one pound six-shillings and six-pence. Every species of provision is sold at the same rate, and most of the salt meat in the garrison is quite rotten.

I am, lating to the training of the policy of the test of the policy of the test of the te

soot vinante ent 1 Dear Brother, 28.884

Affection ately Yours.

LETTER XVIII.

to evolute watch the currence incodust

Gibraltar.

0

m

to

ch

ur

co di

de

DEAR BROTHER,

April THE garrison are noisy with tumultuous joy, occasioned by the arrival of a cutter last night from the West: she brings the captivating and enlivening intelligence of the British sleet, for the relief of the garrison, being on their passage. We seem to be another people—no depression of spirits—every countenance is adorned with satisfactory smiles—a social greeting of friends and acquaintances, congratulatory

congratulatory of the happiness about to be 1781 experienced.

April

This morning two fire-ships were removed from Algaziras towards Cabritta-Point, intended by the enemy to run in among our fleet: three others are at Orange Grove, and several ready in the rivers. We are apprehensive of their being a great annoyance to our shipping.

Last night sailed the St. Fermin sloop, the 4th. Brilliant's tender, and a settee, for Minorca. Two xebecs immediately put to sea in pursuit of them, with a sine breeze at West. The enemy are very busy on the opposite side, in getting their sire-ships out of the rivers.

This evening four armed boats, composed of a detachment of five men from each regiment, under the command of a naval officer, proceeded from the New Mole on an expedition, to cut out the two fire-ships which lay at anchor under Cabritta. It continued rainy and cloudy till they had got within a mile of them, when, on a sudden, the clouds dispersed, and Luna reslected so great a light, that they were under the necessity of returning without accomplishing the business, the enemy having discovered the boats, and made a position of defence.

Rations of provisions from the 9th of April to the 6th of May.

MEN PER WEEK.

Beef, thirteen ounces; pork, thirteen ditto; butter, two ounces and half; raisins, twelve ounces; pease, half pint; beans, one ditto; wheat, one ditto; rice, four ounces; oil, I-4th pint.

Bread

1781 Bread issued to officers and men one pound and half April every two days.

8th. Wind W. About eleven this forenoon, we discovered a small fail under the Barbary shore: about two o'clock the enemy's iquadron weigh. ed and stood for her, consisting of one xebec, one galley, one cutter, and 15 large gun-boats, (mounting twenty-fix pounders;) as foon as they had reached her, they opened furiously both with round and grape shot, which she as briskly and heroically returned; broadside for broadfide continued till she got under cover of the guns, when the received repeated and loud huzzas from the garrison. It is remarkable, notwithstanding the heavy cannonade, not a man was killed, and only a few wounded. She proves to be the Eagle cutter from Port-Glafgow, but brings no account about the fleet.

12th.

Last night, between eleven and twelve o'clock, arrived off the Mole Head, the Kite cutter; she being challenged by the officer of the Mole guard, loudly answered, "From the fleet," which immediately spread like wildfire throughout the garrison; Morpheus refigned his fovereignty, and flumber was forgotten; each found sufficient employ and fatisfaction in conversing on the interesting subject.—We conjectured in the evening the British fleet was near at hand, as the enemy's towers and coast were greatly illuminated, and a number of rockets thrown up at Cabritta. At fix this morning the fleet appeared in the Offing, arranged in admirable order, standing for the garrison, with a gentle breeze at S.W. A shout

n

A shout of joy instantly ensued from every 1781 corner, battery, and height, on the discovery. April About nine, eighteen of the enemy's gun-boats 12th. failed out from Algaziras, but kept pretty well under the land: at ten they began a brisk fire from the boats and battery at the point, upon our shipping; two frigates bore down upon them, and played so warmly, that the enemy made to land. The battery at Sandy Bay, and the Island at Algaziras (mounted with fortytwo pounders) endeavoured to annoy our shiping, but to little purpole, as most of their shot One thip has just dropt anchor. tell wide. A call to arms prevents my further writing; the enemy have opened all their batteries on the town; confusion and consternation are every where to be feen !- Adieu, dear brother, I must haiten to the alarm post.

C

e

f

le

e-

r-

a-

b-

ne

's

d,

ta.

he

ng N.

ut

Six o'clock in the evening.

The necessary dispositions having been made by the Governor, for the defence of the garrifon, I again resume the subject on the several transactions of the day, (during the sew moments I am unemployed from duty) and shall endeavour as far as the noise of rattling cannon and bursting shells will permit, to give you a faint description of the occurrences which took place about a quarter before twelve this forenoon, when the enemy perceived the men of war had passed the Gut, and a few entered

d

I

fi

tl

Ŋ

le

tl

tl

e

n

P

A

ir

a

re

E

A

B

21

t

b

m

it

fe

01

n

bo

1781 tered the Bay, they opened all their batteries, April (in the lines and on the ifthmus) with shot and The bombardment com-12th. shells on the town. menced on a fignal from the Orange Grove, whilst the inhabitants and foldiery were amufing themselves with the aspection of the ship. This fudden alarm spread universal con-Atternation, and the joy predicted on the arrival of the fleet was now turned into an undefcribable forrow.—The foldiers haftened to their poils, and the inhabitants to their houses, many of which were instantly in flames from the effect of the enemy's shells: the obviousness of grief on their part is feelingly expresfive;—their property confuming with rapidity—the uncertainty of felf-prefervation—the anxiety for the fafety of their relatives and dearest kindred—the irretrivability of recovering the greater part of their valuables; add to this, the mangled spectacles of some already fallen from the cannonade, impelled them to fly from fuch a scene of horror, and if possible, fecure a place of shelter, however indifferent: precipitation marked their tootsteps, and the confluence of men, women, and children at South-port Gate, prevented a considerable time, numbers from obtaining a speedy which when they accomplished, paffage, they fled in crowds to the heights of the Rock, out of the reach of the enemy's land Here appalled, they mingled together indifcriminately, within fight of their former dwellings, now in a state of incineration— Commiferable fituation!—shells explode over their heads—cries echo—and vivid flashes pierce the clouds of smoke that cover devastation;

tion; the thunder of the cannon reverberate 1781 dreadfully to their ears, and every concussion April

renews their trepidation.

I must now proceed to give you some account of the cafualties collected. A fettee was funk by a shell lying at the Tanks, near the New Mole—the enemy's that drop but thart of that place. A shell which exploded on the hill, wounded Lieutenant Boag of the Royal Artillery. A ferjeant and feveral men wounded in the lines; the lerjeant's hand was torn off by the violence of the shell:—three men wounded at Grand Battery; two at South Port; three men killed in King's Lines, and one at South-Port, by a piece of a shell that burst in the air. A shell which entered a house in Southport-street, in the explosion blew a Genoefe woman out of a window, but fortunately the only received a bruize by the fall.

The enemy are endeavouring to burn our fhipping, by throwing shells with a view to reach the New Mole. The greater part of the English men of war, keep cruizing off Europa. Admirals Darby, Digby, and Ross are in the Bay. Our town appears from the heights at the Southward, to be insuppressively on fire, and the fulgent blaze truly horrific:—the total demolition of the houses is thought to be inevitable. We are prepared for the enemy, thould they attempt during the night to form the garrison. Detachments having been lent to reinforce the feveral guards, and additional picquets mounted in the town diffricts.

The tremenduousness of the cannonade last night (supported with the utmost vivacity on both fides) and which still continues with una-

13th.

bating

April ful spectacle of war. The varied repercussions 13th. from the Rock, of exploding shells, and the reiterated sound of cannon and mortars, were such as stunned the air, whilst the eye traced with pain the ravaging effect, and gazed with anguish on the continual slash of ordnance,

spreading desolation in every direction.

The town is deferted by all but the foldiery, who amidst the roar of guns, mortars, howitzers, and shells, are busy in retorting on the enemy the woes of war. One minute a shot batters a house about your ears, and the next a shell drops at your feet; here you lie proftrate, waiting the mercy of the explosion; if you escape unhurt, you are perfectly stunned, and almost suffocated with an intolerable stench of powder and fulphur. On every hand flaughtered objects lie before you, harrowing up the tender feelings of the foul: one loses an arm or leg, another cut through the body, a third is blown to pieces with the burfting of a shell: indulgent parents lamenting the loss of fons, and women and children for husbands and fa-Here we behold passions unfeigned, grief without mockery, and diffress without a

A detachment is ordered to march, to reinforce a part of the works confidered too weak for a strong attack, or to relieve another who have stood twenty-four hours facing an inveterate soe; probably before they reach the post my comrade falls by my side, my acquaintance receives a wound, and my best of friends loses the arm that was ever ready to cherish and supply.

No

No one is exempt from duty: a husband is 1781. called upon; the fervice demands his imme- April diate presence, nor dare he stay to take his 13th. farewell by imprinting an affectionate kiss; the thundering Mars, envious of his felicity, raises the javelin for destruction, and levels his commiserating partner while he is absent; not fatisfied with lopping off fo material a branch of happinels, but extends his decilive commands over their tender offspring. teturn—O fentibility! what a ravaging fcene is presented to his view! let imagination conceive;—a wife that foothed his every uneafiness, and softened the rigours of his fate, alas! no more—his dear beloved children, that prattled with a thousand innocent and engageing finiles, and lifped forth their duteous accents, that tended to diffipate the heart-corroding cares of life, and promifing to be a comfort in his aged days, are now reduced to a lifeless lump of clay. Will not his heart break forth in exclamation, "O my beloved wife! 'my charming son! my amiable daughter! not suf-' fered to kiss those lips while warm, nor to press 'you to a bosom to which you was ever dear!'

What inexpressible anguish must the performers feel in the trying scenes and tragical exhibitions, delineated with the most descrip-This must tive wretchedness and misery. move pity in every heart, if not steeled against

every humanizing principle.

n

a-

n•

ak

10

reoft

ce *fes*

nd

No

cannot authentically learn the number already fallen by the cannonade;—various are the conjectures. An account is just arrived, that Surgeon Chisholm of the 56th regiment, has lost a leg by a shot, and that Lieutenant G 3

Budworth

April Two foldiers, and a boy of a wine-house, this 13th. instant killed at Southport, by the explosion of a shell. The road from that gate to the naval hospital, is occupied by men carrying wounded foldiers from the batteries. Report says, several persons are killed in town. The regiments not lodged in bomb proofs in the town, are to receive camp equipage, and remove to their quarters marked out on the rising ground from South Barracks towards Windmill-bill.

about three thousand shot and shells every twenty-four hours, which probably surpasses the beaviest cannonade recorded in history. The damage done to the town is beyond credibility; the greatest part of the houses and effects consumed, and others blown into ruins

0

li

th

fi

fr

pi

W

D

m

in

th

m

icr

die

WO

cho

Th

mit

the

tov

far

be 1

iuff

and

by the burfting of the shells.

This forenoon, eleven Spanish gun-boats began a fire upon our shipping, and carried away the foretop-mast of one of the men of war. These squadrons of gun-boats (each mounted with a twenty-six pounder) contribute their quota to render our days and nights infinitely miserable and alarming, marking the several encampments for proscription, seizing on our retired hours like nightly robbers, filling the mind with the most agonizing apprehension, awakening the garrison from the repose wearied nature requires; and before you can scarce open your eyes, and prepare for the alarm, death stares you in the face, or you feel a precious limb mangled, or hastily torn away.

The frequent interspersions of shot, and the ignition occasioned by the enemy's shells, which

which incessantly are poured on every part of 1781. the Rock within their reach, is beyond def- April cription dreadful. No place of fafety! Not 14th. one spot, but these unfriendly intruders visit, fpreading mortality in their circumrotation; vollies of shocking misery are hourly discharged, and the wearied foldiery, though overpowered with fatigue from continual military toil, are much prevented from enjoying the few hours allotted for repose, which a finall part of the garrison only are exempted. from duty, in the daily proportion of guards, picquets, &c. Every one finds an interest in watching—not one moment's fecurity. It flumber should close your eyes, probably they might not view the enlivening rays of Aurora in the morning.

The wounded men are numerously carrying from the town districts to the Naval Hospital. Almost every hour furnishes a new instance of the cruelty of war. One man has now passed me in a mangled situation too dreadful to describe. Ensign Martin of the 39th regiment is wounded, but not dangerously. A few soldiers killed this day, and a great number

wounded.

r

e

1,

ce

n,

e-

ne

ls,

ch

The British fleet have not yet come to anchor, but keep hovering round the Rock.
The enemy support the cannonade with unremitting spirit, and their artillery seem to direct
their sole attention to the consuming of the
town. The damage already done would fall
far short of any estimate that at present can
be made. The batteries which were deemed
sufficiently strong, share in the general ruin,
and parties are labouring at the repair in the
most

April the garrison is masterly and well support.

15th. ed, carrying into the enemy's lines and works the sad effects of internecion, which is evident from the number of wounded we observe frequently conveying to their camp on litters.

Apathy alone can view the lituation of the inhabitants on the heights of the Rock without pain; the most fortunate are only in possession of a thin piece of canvas or sail-cloth to screen them from the scorching heat of the day, and excessive dew of the night. Not any conveniency to drefs the small portion of food fome have procured, whilst others are in a famishing condition. Judge, dear Brother, their dreadful state from the following fact which, though a foldier, drew the compaffionate tear from my eyes. Mrs. M-, a merchant's lady, came to the encampment with a child in her arms, accident threw me in her way, when with a voice that must have melted the most unfeeling heart, the supplicated for a little falt broth for her infant: I ran instantly and procured what the requested, and feated her in my fmall tent. She affured me she had tafted nothing for the two days past, and that the prefervation of her dear infant, induced her alone to visit the encampment. I left her with the fmall repair I had procured, and retired behind the tent. But how can language paint the lively emotions of my heart, in hearing her offer up a prayer to heaven for my preservation; I confess I was unmanned-a merchant's lady three days ago in possession of affluency, now reduced to total want, and

pa d ar to folicit from a foldier a portion of his small 1781 allowance! Let this, Brother, be a lesson to April you to receive with thanksgiving the abundant bounties of Providence, dispensed to man.

Havock still continues!—Several of the inhabitants in endeavouring to fave part of their property in town, have lost their lives. corporal had his hand thot off as he was calling from a window to a man in the street. dier was found fo miferably torn by a shell, that he could not be known only by part of his dress. A shot killed two soldiers this morning, one of whom was brushing his shoes for guard. Surgeon Kruger of De La Mott's regiment, was wounded by a splinter of a shell. A Genoefe youth, endowed with every amiable qualification, on the point of nuptial celebration, was unfortunately killed. The lady to whom his addresses were paid, sled on the intelligence to the place where he had fallen, and clasped his mangled body in her arms.—She was carried home in a state of infensibility.

The feamen and foldiers are affiduously employed in unloading the shipping, as the fleet is not intended to be detained here longer than The parties work the provision is landed. day and night—one from fun-rife to fun-fet, and another from fun-fet to fun-rife.—The town is become a heap of ruins—the greatest part of the houses are either burnt, or battered The showers of thot from the enemy are beyond credibility—fuch perdurable difchrages, with fuch unbounded impetuolity, that the ear is stunned with the multiplied

14

iounds.

be

a

ly

ad

nd

ed

ner

nd

age

ear-

my

--a

ion

and

to

l cannot

April following conversation between two soldiers in 15th. Irish-Town yesterday. I met Jack Careless * in the street, singing with uncommon glee (notwithstanding the enemy were siring with prodigious warmth) part of the old song,

- " A foldier's life's a merry life,
- " From care and trouble free."

He ran to his comrade with eagerness, and presenting his bottle, cried, D-n me, if I don't like fighting: I'd like to be ever tanning the Dons: plenty of good liquor for carrying away-never was the price so cheap—fine stuff—enough to make a mi-ser quit his gold. Why, Jack, said he, what have you been about? With an arch grin he replied, That would puzzle a heathen philosopher, or yearly almanack-maker, to unriddle-I scarce know myself. I have been constantly on foot and watch, half-starved, and without money, facing a parcel of pitiful Spaniards. I have been fighting, wheeling, marching, and counter-marching; sometimes with a firelock, then with a handspike, and now my bottle, brandishing it in the air. I am so pleased with the melody of great guns, that I consider myself as a Roman general, gloriously fighting for my country's bonour and liberty. A thell that instant burst, a piece of which knocked the bottle out of his hand: with the greatest compofure he replied (having first graced it with an oath) This is not any loss, I have found a whole cask by good luck (and brought him to view his treasure.) But, Jack, says he, are you not thankful to God for your preservation? How do

di

04

^{*} A foldier well known in the Garrison by that name.

do you mean, answered Jack? Fine talking of God 1781 with a foldier, whose trade and occupation is cutting April throats: Divinity and Slaughter found very well to- 15th. gether; they gingle like a crack'd bell in the hand of a noify crier : our King is answerable to God for us ; I fight for him. My religion confifts in a firelock, open touch-hole, good flint, well-rammed charge, and seventy rounds of powder and ball: This is the military creed. Come, comrade, drink Success to the British arms. On his asking him for a glass, he seemed surprised, Why, (fays he,) you may well know there is not one to be had, but here is something that will do as well, (and he took up a piece of a shell;) here is a cup fit for a monarch; this was not purchased with gold or friendship, but with the streams of our countrymens' blood. Having filled the piece of shell, he gave it to his comrade to drink. Come Yack, (faid he) Here is King George and Victory! And he that would not drink the fame (replied he) I'd give him an ounce of lead to pay Charon to ferry him over the river Styx.

I am,

Dear Brother,
Affectionately Yours.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Full allowance of Becf and Pork, five ounces of Butter, quarter of a pint Oil, one pint Peafe, one ditto Kidney Beans, two pints of Wheat, and twelve ounces of Raisins, to be served to-morrow.

LETTER

LETTER XIX.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

April THE bombardment is kept up vigorously by the enemy; a continuation of unceasingth. In the firing, particularly directed to Willis's Heights, the King's and Prince's lines—Landport and Waterport also sustain their share. The slag of England seems to enrage our opponents, as they have directed three pieces of cannon to play upon Flag-staff Guard—one shot struck the standard this forenoon. Believe me, you would smile could you have seen the readiness of the Royal Artillery to replace the damage, amidst the vivacious discharges of the Dons, whose vengeance seemed more forcibly roused, by our men immediately nailing on the flag.

The regiments whose quarters in town have been destroyed, are now encamped upon the different heights of the Rock at the fouthward, from the rifing ground at the back of the Barracks, extending to the gate at Windmill-bill.-The inhabitants have begun erecting temporary sheds—some in the Gullies between Buena Vista and Europa, others on Windmill-bill, nor is there scarce any part of the Rock, out of the reach of the enemy's land fire, but what is covered with marquees, tents, huts, &c. &c. Timber is taken from the ruins of the town to answer this necessary business, and the employment occasioned thereby keeps all hands bufy. A pleafure boat came over this morning from the Orange Grove, and remained at long

long gun shot distance near an hour, viewing 1781 (as we suppose) the variety of buildings, which April must exhibit an odd appearance from the Bay. 19th.

The military in the Spanish camp assemble in the front of their tents every evening, and bodies of infantry march immediately after into their lines; a reinforcement of officers and men are therefore detached to town, exclusive of the daily guards, as we cannot but expect a speedy attack from the land side.— General Eliott has prepared to receive them with military politeness, not sparingly, but amply provided for their reception; an excellent repast of shells of different sizes, round and grape shot, * hand grenades, carcasses, &c. are ready to be served up at the shortest notice, for the entertainment of General Alvarez and his troops, when they attempt the expugnation of the Rock.

The following List contains the number of officers and men who mount guard and piquet every day.

	Capts.	Subs.	Serjs.	Cors.	Dms	. Privs.
Town guards	8	14	49	54	15	521
South guards	3	7	15	20	9	270
Artillery	I	3	9	II	0	106
	12	24	73	85	24	897
Piquets	0	13	13	15	13	689
Total	12	37	86	100	37	1586

is is

n 1-

1-

15

N. B. The Field Officers are not included in the above number.

Last

^{*} A fmall hollow globe of iron, filled with powder, and fired by a fuze; they are thrown by the hand, and are of great annoyance in battle. Children may throw them over a wall.

April lines Guard, how he escaped is impossible to 19th. conjecture, as neither rope, nor ladder could be discovered.

This forenoon arrived a fhip from the West. Admiral Barcello is very quiet on the opposite fide, nor has he shewn the least indication to run in any of his fire-ships among the shipping already anchored. Our men of war keep tack. ing backwards and forwards, which very much disconcerts the enemy in the plans they had adopted for their destruction. The fire-ships which lay at Cabritta, are removed to Algazi. ras, where the Spanish squadron have hauled close under the land. The fire from the lines. and ifthmus continues without intermission, excepting from twelve to two o'clock at noon, when they rather flacken to cool their ordnance, at which time General Eliott takes the opportunity of relieving the town guards.

20th.

Admiral Lockhart Ross, has been indefatigable in landing the provision. His attention to the foldiery evinces the goodness of his heart, both as an officer and a man of feeling. He learned that a soldier was confined for taking a biscuit, he liberated the man with a severe admonishing; then calling to a Cooper, directed him to open a cask of biscuit, and butter, which he distributed among them: "My good lads, (said he) steal nothing—your countenances speak the hardships you have suffered, and whilst I command here you shall have plenty to eat."—He also caused several baskets of cheese to be opened, which he delivered with a countenance expressive of the satisfaction he felt.

Wind

re

bin

Wind N. E. This forenoon Admiral Darby 1781 made fignal for fail; feveral veffels got under April weigh from Rosia, and in the evening they 21st. were all out of fight. The Spanish towers, as usual, spread the alarm; the enemy discharged their ordnance with great fury, intimating, that now our floating castles were departed, they had nothing to obstruct the exercise of their malignant rage. They have damaged our works in feveral parts, which we carefully repair during the course of the night. We have not as yet loft many men in the execution of our operations.

The enemy continue their brisk fire on the 23d. garrison, and this day Lieutenant Cunnyngham of the 39th regiment was much wounded; it is imagined by the faculty it will prove mor-A foldier this day had both his legs thot off; he seemed rejoiced at the loss, and exclaimed, I am now dismissed from the drill and black hole; which his negligence rendered indispensibly necessary often to inslict upon him.

This day a thirteen-inch shell, fired from the 24th. enemy's works, dropped in the King's Bastion, and wounded leven men; three of them in a very bad condition.—Our batteries are rather remils in returning the fire, referving the ammunition for other purpoles.

e t-

d

es lft

e

n-

ce

nd

Wind E. Arrived from Minorca, the Bril- 27th. liant, Porcupine, Enterprize, and Minorca frigates, two small xebecs, and fixteen fail of Tartans and fettees, with a supply of wine, biscuit, carravances,* &c. for government ac-Admiral Barcello, no doubt, was defperately

* A fmall bean, about the fize of a kidney-bean.

April pected convoy: after having loofed his fails, 27th. and made every appearance of putting to fea, he fired a gun, which was answered at Ceuta, as a fignal for them to keep a sharp look out to the eastward; his fails were then nimbly furled

again.

Came in two deferters from the enemy's Walloon Guards. They bring the intelligence that the Spaniards are expeditioully getting in readiness scaling ladders, and all necessary equipments for an attack, and that in a few months we may depend upon being vigorously stormed both by land and sea. This is looked upon as contemptible prefumption: for Britons, whilst led on by veteran chiefs, and gallant heroes, will ever defend these envied battlements and walls from Spain's approaches, and compel them to return, after all their pomp and parade, amidit difguit and disappointment The enemy's gun and of the defired glory. mortar-boats came over last night, and fired upon the inhabitants retreats, and troops encampments; on this occasion, a soldier's wife was killed, as the was haftily drefling herfelf in the tent, in order to feek some place of re-Some others were flightly wounded.

28th. This morning, their being a calm fea, the gun and mortar-boats gave us a pretty brisk fire. The garrison and shipping kept up a hot cannonade upon them, but unfortunately they killed one soldier, and wounded six others, of

and three hundred rounds.

At ten o'clock this forenoon, a party affembled at the lower extremity of the Old Mole (or

different regiments. They fired between two

n

0

n

21

ec

W

ci

(or Devil's Tongue) to make an experiment of 1781 reaching the Spanish camp, from two sea-mor- April tars planted there. The first shell we threw fell 28th. within a few yards of the East angle of their grand magazine, which feemed to fill the enemy with consternation; not imagining it was practicable to have annoyed them in that part from the garrison, the distance being 3056 yards. We threw feveral, which fell in different parts of their encampment—one burst in the air about half way, the splinters of which were feen to fall near the shore above the battery (now called the Black Battery) on the right of St. Phillippe. It is reported, the intention of this is, to convince the enemy that we shall be able to repay the compliment upon their encampment, whenever their boats vifit ours.

The fouthward heights of the garrison were lined with a number of the inhabitants, who willingly became spectators (out of the reach of danger) of the experimental exhibition, impatiently waiting the discharge; but when they perceived the shell fall upon the Spanish land, they repeatedly gave loud acclamations, happy in their minds that we had found out a means of annoying the enemy's camp.

d

it

d

d

1-

fe

e-

he

sk

ot

ev

ot

NO

m-

Tole (or

Wind E. Last night sailed the Enterprize 29th. and Minorca frigates, for England, with feveral other thips under convoy: the enemy have

not detached any of their shipping from Algaziras in pursuit of them. A signal was observed this morning on the tower at Cabritta, which we imagine was intended to alarm the

cruizers at Cadiz. Admiral Barcello feems lefs

attentive in watching the port, as very few of

April are plentifully supplied with shot and shells; their batteries continue raging nearly the whole twenty-four hours of each day. The enemy are profusely liberal, and, with an unexampled generosity, repay the cannonade.

Your's, &c.

LETTER XX.

Gibraltar.

f

m

m

no

to

ve

fix

pro

ma

ble

ing

DEAR BROTHER,

A MIDST the clamour of war, shells burst. May 1 ing, fhot flying, and houses burning, a continual scene of sulphur, smoke, and fire; whenever I have any hours unemployed from duty, I dedicate them to your fervice. Death stares me in the face every minute, and there fore what I write you may look upon as the fincere fentiments of my heart. The streets of the town are like a defart, and almost every house burnt, or torn with shot and shells. In fome parts the shot and broken pieces of shells are so thick, that in walking your feet does not touch the ground. The enemy have kept up a fire these twenty days past, and it is believed, before they ceafe, our small arms will be bufily employed. The enemy's gun and mortar-boats are firing from the Bay. A shell, which now burst, forced me to run with my papers in my hand, to avoid danger.—The groans of one in mifery has reached my ears - I must I must haste to his assistance. On my going 1781 to the other side of a traverse, I found a sol-May dier, with both legs broke by a piece of the shell which occasioned my retreat—a miserable spectacle! The gun-boats are gone, having sired about three hundred rounds at the southward. I do not hear of any particular damage done.

This forenoon a soldier was executed for 5th. plunder, at the place where the fact was committed, with a label upon his breast denoting the same. He was left hanging till sun-set.

The gun and mortar-boats paid us a general 8th. falute; the garrison and shipping made a return:—happily not any damage was done on our side.

This day the enemy made a shameful seaattack: after near two hours discharge of their ordnance, they triumphantly retreated to spread their great exploits and bold atchievements along their coast, without having thrown a shot or shell on shore. We imagine that they must have suffered considerably on the 8th from our fire.

a

m

th

e

he

of

ry

In

ells

Des

ept

be-

vill

ind

ell,

my

The

ears

utt

The gun and mortar boats last night again 13th. disturbed us with their siring, but only damaged a few huts in our encampment. These nocturnal expeditions are of great annoyance to the garrison, as the duty of the soldiery is very fatiguing, being constantly on foot for six or seven days and nights together; and probably, when it comes to their turn to have a night to rest in, these common disturbers make their appearance. It is really lamentable, that we cannot adopt a means of destroying them.

H

Laft

1781 Last night, a man was discovered advancing May. in flow steps towards the garrison, on the road 20th. leading from Bay-fide to Landport; but when he came pretty near the advanced guard, he crawled upon his hands and knees: a Hanoue. rian ferjeant, on duty there, challenged him before he came as far as the work, upon which he made a retreat. Lieutenant Whetham, of the 58th regt. immediately made a fally with great activity, but when on the point of feizing him, he unfortunately fell into a shell-hole, which gave the other time to pull through Bay-fide. A gold-laced hat was picked up on the road, which makes us imagine that he was an officer in the enemy's fervice, who had come to view the situation of the place, and how far a detachment might advance in the night before they would be discovered. Our guards in the lines fired pretty brifkly, and was very near killing the officer that fallied out.

night, and gave the camp a very brisk falute. Several people were killed and wounded. The New Mole, Parson's Lodge, Buena Vista, and South Bastion, fired remarkably warm upon them, but could not make them desist: when their ammunition was all expended, they then took their leave. A shell from the Mill-Tower Battery fell into a house at the back of South-Shed Guard, by which a child was killed, and a man and two women wounded; the man is

The gun and mortar-boats came over last

in so dangerous a way, that his life is despaired of. I cannot close this account, without informing you, that the mother of the above

child was killed on the 28th of April, by the

ft

11

n

e

I

fire

fire of the gun-boats, and that the husband is 1781 almost disconsolate for their loss. May

This day two foldiers were executed at the 29th. White Convent for plunder. The town-guards, by order of the Governor, marched past while

they were hanging.

9

-

h

e

at

n,

ch

d,

er

W

le.

he

ear

last

ite.

and

pon

hen

hen

nuer outh-

and

an is

ired

bove

the the

fire

This day, another foldier was executed for 30th. the same crime: the General is a very humane man, but cannot overlook so great an infringement of martial law. It is amazing, that men should sport away their existence, for the gratistication of their sensual appetites, as the crimes for which they all suffered were for plundering the king's stores of provisions and liquor. I hope that these examples will be sufficient to deter the unthinking part from committing the same acts.

The enemy's fire is not so brisk as at the first; they are pretty moderate during the day, but at night play more freely. It is afferted, they do not fire above sixteen or eighteen hundred rounds per diem. Since my last, the fol-

lowing officers have been wounded.

Lieutenant Willington, Royal Artillery,

Lieutenant Lowe and Thornton, of the 12th. And Captain Foulis, of the 73d regiments.

Lieutenant Cunnyngham, 39th regiment,

died of his wounds the 6th instant.

We are in continual expectation of being flormed by the enemy, but we begin to be for inured to dangers, that the found of it is no more regarded than an old tale. Wishing you every joy, peace, and contentment, I subscribe myself.

Your affectionate Brother,

H 2

LETTER

June

LETTER XXI.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

A LL the pleasure I have is to write to you, and receive your answers. The enemy keep their usual warm fire on the garrison, and we are hourly waiting their assault. You are far out of the reach of danger. You may sleep contented, nor dread a vigorous fire of thirteen-inch shells, and twenty-six pound shot, which here we are continually supplied and entertained with, I assure you the Dons, in this respect, evince a martial taste, and are beyond belief liberal.

Yesterday evening we made a prize of a Neapolitan brig. Our batteries fired at her, which obliged her to come in, she having received several shot. She is laden with flour, consigned to the enemy: We brought her into the New Mole.

This morning, at two o'clock, the Spanish gun and mortar-boats came over, and fired upwards of three hundred rounds, and then retired; two foldiers were wounded, but not dangerously; they damaged several of the huts—We fired a number of shells, which burst in the air over them. It is conjectured they must have suffered considerably. On the land side the enemy fired excessive hard all the night, such repeated vollies that it was impossible difficily to tell how many guns were discharged each time; they have greatly shattered our works,

Cour

P beef, issued

ed of my his I partifirer

T

Chair shell complitroy ble to by t

with

came

of or is cu cd a out of quire with a fm our juited

Not

works, but they cannot abate our fpirits.— 1781 Courage is Britons' Prerogative. June

GARRISON ORDERS.

Provisions as usual, except that for one pound of beef, three quarters of a pound of cheese will be issued weekly.

This morning the Royal Standard was hoisted on flag-staff, and at noon we gave the enemy a ROYAL SALUTE with shot, in honour of his Majesty's birth-day. The Spanish working parties were busily employed on the isthmus, strengthening and repairing their works.

This morning a magazine belonging to the othernemy, on the rifing ground under the Queen's Chair, took fire, confifting of ready prepared shells: there was a great explosion, and it is computed near five thousand shells were destroyed, besides many lives lost. It is incredible to believe the joy and transport exhibited by the British soldiery, while death mingled with the enemy.

This morning a boat, under flag of truce, 11th. came over from Algaziras, to inquire the cause of our siring at a-neutral vessel yesterday. It is currently reported, that the General returned a British answer, "That they must either keep out of the reach of his guas, or bring to, if required." The enemy made another sea-attack with their gun and mortar-boats, but received a smart repulse. I believe they did not relish our play, as we gave them a plentiful distribution of shells, which burst over their heads. Not any damage done on shore.

This.

26th.

June the women and children that were taken by 13th. the enemy, in the ships that sailed from hence the 29th of April. They have detained the crews, in order that they may have the less opposition when they make their attack.

GARRISON ORDERS.

5th. Provision from Monday next the 18th of June,

till further orders.

Seven pound of Bread, four ditto of which will be fost, and three ditto of Biscuit; one pound and half Beef, one pound Pork, twelve ounces Cheefe, six ounces Butter, quarter pint of Oil, four pints of Pease, and three pints of Oatmeal, per week.

boats discharged about two hundred and fifty rounds, without effecting any other damage, than blowing up several huts and tents. The batteries, most convenient to annoy them, played very briskly.

Wind E. Last night sailed a ship with several invalids, under the care of Captain Colt, 12th regiment, for England. The enemy, it is imagined, did not perceive her going out.

The Neapolitan, mentioned the first of June, was condemned here as a lawful prize, and agents are accordingly appointed until his Majesty's pleasure is known.

d

n

GARRISON ORDERS.

30th. The same quantity and species of provision, to be issued next month as last.

The

The enemy keep at work—they feem to be 1781 extending a branch towards the West shore.— June They continue the Siege by land with as much sury as ever. Admiral Barcello occupies his old station, and views with pleasure the excursions of his gun-boats. We are very busily employed every night repairing the damages done by their shot and shells. We have not had an officer wounded this month, but several non-commissioned officers and men killed and wounded.

I: am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours, &c.

LETTER XXII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

r. ty

m,

fe-

olt,

ne, ind

o be

The

THE enemy continue vigorously to bom-July 3 bard the garrison.—They are making some additional fortifications on the isthmus, either to shelter themselves, or to annoy us in a greater degree. Their military force does not appear to have received any reinforcement—We observe every night several detachments marching down to the lines, which we conjecture are to relieve the different guards and artillery parties.

Yesterday afternoon, about sisteen or sixteen sail of small craft arrived from the Westward at Orange Grove.

We

July the enemy's mill battery, chiefly small shells. Several carts, and a large body of men, having been observed passing the West angle of St. Phillippe, just at the close of the evening, which we apprehended were for the execution of some work on the isthmus.

oth. The enemy's gun and water boats came over, and discharged very briskly several rounds of shot and shells. They did not stay near their usual time, which makes us imagine they have suffered from our bursting the shells over their hands.

heads.

The fmall craft that anchored at Orange Grove the 3d inftant have been landing either stores or provisions ever since: this morning they removed from Algaziras.

Last night we had several men killed and

wounded by the enemy's land-fire.

flood to the East, two small sail having been observed there, waiting the change of the wind. It is not improbable but they are vessels with supplies, bound from Tetuan to the garrison.

Wind E. The xebec and cruizers have returned, without fuccess, to Cabritta, where they have anchored to keep a look out to the

East.

Last night a vessel sailed from here, bound to England with dispatches, mentioning all is well. The enemy's land fire is very slack, only now and then a few shot in the day—at night their discharge is mostly shells.

This

gaz

bu

Fai

me

cat

vil

vei

filt

thr

the

WO

upo

qui

anc

ries

ma

ver

mir

WO

fite

are

land

eye: rect

mon of f

WOI

that

that

con;

This morning two gallies brought into Al- 1781 gaziras a large settee .- Aicki Hamet, a Moorish July butcher, fays she is laden with cattle from Faro. This will be a great loss to the garrison, as we have not received any supply of fresh meat for fome time, and there being very few cattle at present in the place. The fresh provision which is fold now, is pork, and that is very indifferent and scarce, being fed on the filth of the place, eight rials per pound, about three shillings and three pence sterling.

Very little tire from the enemy by land thefe fix days—they feem to be repairing our works, and we are as attentively employed upon our own.-Towards the Bay all is

quiet,

The enemy have again roused.—Yesterday and to-day they fired inceffantly. Our batteries made but a trifling return; as it is almost madness to fire at their works, they being so thickly covered with fand, that our thot finds

very little penetration.

The enemy continue firing, and feem determined, if possible, to batter down all their works-their gun and mortar boats again vifited us, without effecting any damage. are really in a difmal fituation—between the land and fea fire, we scarce dare close our eyes. On your part you muit not expect correct letters; the hurry of the times, the noise of mertars, howitzers, cannon, and the burfting of thells, render the mind to confused that it would be a talk: let it fusice that I am alive; that shot and shells are my near companions; that fmoke, and wounded brother-foldiers are constantly in view; that we have heavy duty, hard

23d.

July forts are groans; that our nightly repose is 30th. turned to harrassing alarms; that our passimes are destruction; that every hour, we or the enemy are inventing some horrid stratagem; and that the next we behold each other plunged thereby into the most excruciating anguish.

Such, dear Brother, are Gibraltar exhibitions; and perhaps while you are reading this, and feel a fensible pang at your heart for my situation, I may be performing a part in the tragical scene, on a stage where criticism blushes to appear.

You will think I indulge a brood of melancholy reflections, but believe me, I am as chearful as the god of mirth! Amidst camps, martial sounds, and all the din of war, I find complacency in a refignation to the will of God. If Death attends, I hope to receive my fate with a christian fortitude, and meet honour with expanded arms. With the fullest sense of brotherly affection, I subscribe myself,

Sincerely your's,

LETTER XXIII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

Aug. 1. NOTHING material has taken place on the isthmus;—the enemy are very attentive to the Siege, and keep up a well directed and regular fire. We lost several men yesterday afternoon, by the fire from the Black Battery.

Gentle

Gentle breezes at W. Last night the gun 1781 and mortar boats arranged in two separate di-Aug. visions, briskly poured into the garrison about two hundred rounds of shot and shells. Our batteries, together with the Repulse and Van Guard (which are anchored off the New Mole Head) gave them a generous return. The cannonade was so spirited, that the bay appeared a blaze during the whole time.

Wind W. This morning a boat standing for the Rock, was taken by the enemy's cruizers, and conducted over the way. We could not give her any assistance, she being near two

leagues distance.

e

ed

ay

The enemy keep bufy at work during the intervals our fire ceases, and have greatly strengthened their advanced approaches. From their proceedings we are almost positive they have other works in contemplation. On our side we have begun forming some additional * embrazures on the hills.

This forenoon a fail appeared in the Offing, with little wind at W. The Spanish watch-towers hung out the fignal of an enemy's appearance.—Eighteen fail of gun-boats rowed out from Algaziras, and when she had come within two leagues of the garrison, it fell a dead calm, and the enemy raked her fore and aft, showering grape both upon her starboard and larboard quarter. She plied her guns briskly, and I believe would have been inevitably taken, had not Captain Curtis, naval commander, ordered the two gun boats, viz. the Van Guard and Repulse, the former of six, and the latter of sive guns, to be towed by

3d,

5th

6th

^{*} Holes in a battery through which the cannon are pointed.

tl

ra

k

T

W

O1 W

Ye

TI

No

Bu

off

ha the

fir

ou

0'0

ma rife

for

lof

fup

my

me

in c

in 1

1781 the men of war's boats, towards the enemy, Aug. which they performed in a gallant and undaunted manner, notwithstanding the Spanish gun boats directed their fire among them-When they had got within reach, the Repulse discharged her guns, and as soon as the Van Guard came up the did the fame, which prevented the enemy from boarding the vellel a xebec, cutter, and feveral double gallies cooperated, and poured in a heavy fire, but could not cut her off from the garrison. Her fails, we could plainly perceive, were so greatly torn with grape, that when the breeze sprang up, the could make but little way, but our boats having got a rope from her, they towed her under the walls. She proves to be the Helena floop, in fixteen days from Portsmouth. Her main mast was shot through with a twenty-fix pound ball; the boatfwain was killed, and one of the crew wounded: fuch a warm fea engagement was never known in light of the garrison, and we concluded that every foul on board must have been killed or wounded: -But Britons are ever brave, nor could the numerous swarm of cruizers the least dishearten the Captain, nor dispirit the noble crew, who were determined, rather than yield to Spanish power, to perish every man. When the had come near enough for the garrifon to cheer (who in crouds had taken polleffion of the walls and heights as spectators) an incessant shouting ensued, and huzzas, that reechoed from the Rock and skies.

Such instances as these must convince the enemy that the spirit of Britons is unparalleled, and that no superiority of power will make them

them yield. It must greatly cool their cou- 1781. rage, and disposses them of all hope of ta- Aug. king Gibraltar.

Thus Albion's fons defy the hostile foe—
From shore to shore they steer with conqu'ring arms!
With Britain's royal ensigns spread abroad,
On whom the wond'ring nations gaze with pleasure,
While George's enemies are struck with dread—
Ye hectoring Dons, the British standard view,
That bids defiance to your sleets and armies;
Nor let ambition lead you on to woe,
But stop! before we work your overthrow.

Wind E. Last night a fettee from Minorca, 10th. bound to the garrison with supplies, was taken off Europa, by the Spanish cruizers. The crew had just time, before she was boarded, to make their escape. The enemy keep a tolerable brisk fire, and we continue to annoy them from our batteries on the hill.

Last night, between eleven and twelve 16th, o'clock, the enemy's gun and mortar-boats made an attack upon the southward; the garrison and shipping returned the fire, but unfortunately, during the action, we had the loss of one man killed, and three wounded.

Wind W. During the course of the night, a 17th. schooner got safe in from Fare, with sundry supplies. They bring an account that the enemy are busy at Cadiz, in equipping an armament to act against this place, and are hourly in expectation of being reinforced with a French squadron.

Last night, several guns were distinctly heard 19th. in the Gut, from nine to eleven o'clock, which proved

th

la

re

C

al

to

C

G

n

ti

il,

Aug. cutter, from Gravesend, arrived here safe this morning. She has brought dispatches for our Governor.

23d. The enemy are diligently employed in lengthening their approaches on the ifthmus. Several strong parties frequently appear, which we as regularly sire upon—From their Black Battery, Forts St. Phillippe, Barbary, and lines, they keep a hot and severe cannonade and bombardment—two soldiers killed this day.

28th.

Last night, there being a smooth sea, the Spanish gun and mortar-boats came over from Algaziras, and fired briskly for the space of The garrison, shiptwo hours and upwards. ing, and two advanced gun-boats or prams, made a very good return, but all ineffectual to prevent their annoyance. A shell unfortunately fell into the artillery-ward at Naval-Hospital, and killed a matross, who was incapable of getting out of bed, owing to having his leg and thigh broke by the enemy's fire fome time past, of which he daily languished: the shell dropped by the side of his cradle, fpitting forth its fulphureous venom, and in that tormenting fituation, he was compelled to remain and wait the mercy of the explosion. You may judge what must be his feeling in that predicament, without friends, help, or strength to make his escape from so irrelitible The inexpressible agonies he must have experienced during the short interval of life, certainly were beyond the power of utterance, or the delineations of a pen to give a just description: after having uttered a few ejaculations to heaven, the unmerciful demon burst in pieces, and extinguished those sparks of life 1781 that were unexpired in the wounded man. Aug.

Nothing extraordinary this month from the land or sea; every thing is perfectly quiet in respect to storming us. The Spanish batteries continue their usual sire, both from their lines and isthmus. We expect, every westerly wind, to behold the grand armament appear in the Offing from Cadiz, to give the decisive blow.—General Eliott has made every possible arrangement of ordnance, for a determined opposition; and, I hope, whenever the trial comes, that our arms will be crowned with victorious success.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Sincerely yours.

LETTER XXIV.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

DEATH and Slaughter continue to be our Sept. visitants—on every hand impending ruin hourly awaits. The Spaniards keep up their usual fire upon us, seemingly studiously meditating our overthrow; not only the garrison of Gibraltar, but also the island of Minorca, has excited their attention. From this it is evident they are aiming at clearing the Mediterranean of his Britannic Majesty's land and sea-forces, but

1781 but it is hoped that their endeavours to effect Sept. these purposes, will fall short of the desired success.

This forenoon, a Spanish cartel brought over the Patron of the boat taken the third of August last, from whom we learn, that the French have landed an army on the island of Minorea, with an intent to work the reduction of that place; and it is currently reported in Spain, that the Duc de Critlon had commenced a bombardment there. Several wounded invalids were embarked on ship-board by order of the Governor, on their passage for England, the third instant.

The enemy are very bufy on the ifthmus, employed at work, forwarding their labours—the tracts of feveral carts have been discovered on the fand, between the lines and Mill-Battery, so that we imagine they were carrying ordnance or materials for their batteries.

7th. Arrived from the eastward a xebec and two gallies, they have anchored on the opposite side. The enemy's fire continues. Three men were wounded this afternoon by the explosion of a shell.

dressed out with variety of colours, and at noon the forts, lines, and Black Battery gave us a salute of twenty-seven guns with shot: The troops in camp were arranged in line, and sired a feu de joye, which they repeated three times, together with the shipping at Algaziras. We cannot imagine the cause of this rejoicing, as it is not one of their Saint's days.

of under the care of Lieutenant Lowe of the

ro

the

W

ito

ha

caf

for of end

the for

the wa

the

gii me in

on th th fo

de

the 12th regiment, failed last night to the 1781 Westward. Sept.

The enemy continue a brisk cannonade-

We return the fire moderately.

Last night the Spanish gun and mortar-boats 18th. ftole over, and fired upwards of three hundred. rounds of thot and thells—the garrison and shipping kept up an incessant discharge of ordnance, but unluckily, during the action we had four men wounded.

Some time in the course of the night, a carcass, fired from Willis's, upon the works on the isthmus, let them on fire, which burnt for near an hour—We took this opportunity of making a furious cannonade, which the enemy particularly acknowledged.

We discovered this morning a new work, West side of St. Carlos, extended towards the shore. It is not sufficiently executed to

form a judgment of the construction.

A xebec and feveral small craft failed this morning from Algaziras to the Ealtward, where they are observed cruizing backwards and forwards, in expectation of meeting some prey.

Between nine and ten o'clock last night, a 19th. shell fired from St. Carlos's battery, on the ifthmus, entered a house near South Line-wall guard -Majors Mercier and Vignoles of the 39th regiment, and Captain Burke of the 58th regiment (Town-Major of the garrison) were siting round a table in a room when the shell descended with fatal destruction, which falling on the thighs of the latter, greatly mutilated them, and wounded the two other Majors:the rubbish which fell from the ceiling by the forcible entry, extinguished the candle, and the

1781 the only light remaining was the igneous fuze Sept. of the shell. Majors Mercier and Vignoles in 19th. their wounded condition, instantly arose to escape, when taking hold of Captain Burke, they found him in a state apparently deprived of action or expression. Self preservation be. came necessary, (one minute longer delay pro. bably would have terminated their existence) they instantly retreated in pain, from the scene of mifery, which they had scarce effected, when the shell burst with furious explosion, and tessed the Town-Major from the place where he had fallen, to another part of the room: He was foon after removed in a mangled and torn condition, which feelingly effected the foldiers, who carried him from that place to the Naval Hospital, where he soon afterwards expired. in the most excruciating agony.

In visiting the house in the morning, the walls were found shattered, besprinkled with his blood, and part of his slesh sticking to the

ruins of the roof.

You will pardon me in attempting to draw the outlines of fo worthy and deferving an officer.

He was bold, vigilant, enterprizing, and well disciplined. Active and severe in his station, and attentive to an impartial discharge of the duty he owed his country, but to do justice to his eminent abilities, my talents are too inadequate, I must therefore leave it to some able writer, who knew his private, as well as public virtues. His loss will be long regretted by society;—by his country in general, and this garrison in particular.

While

C

tl

fe

th

W

While the attendants strove to bind his wounds,
He patient gaz'd around, with placid eyes,
'Till wearied Nature sinking with her load,
Resisted—struggled—worn out with th' encounter,
Resign'd her charge unto the tyrant Death;
His soul unsetter'd, unincumber'd fled,
To the blest mansions of eternal peace.

1781 Sept. 19th.

The enemy kept up a brisk fire the whole of last night, which was as spiritedly returned by our batteries, and when the above intelligence had reached the several posts, revenge operated so powerfully, that our cannonade continued till the morning, very hot. We had several men wounded, during the night.

Sailed the Helena floop, and Kite cutter, to

the Westward.

ıl

th

he

aw an

nd fta-

rge

do are to

, as

ong

ene-

Vhile

This day, between eleven and one o'clock, a foldier was executed for theft. He died feemingly infensible of his fituation.

GARRISON ORDERS.

20th

Captain James Foulis of the 73d regiment, is appointed Town-Major, vice Major Burke deceased.

This day we had several men killed from the land-sire—the enemy continue briskly at work on the West side of St. Carlos.

I 2

GARRISON

GARRISON ORDERS.

fi

q

e

it

ti

m

al

te

tw

an

of

tio

1781

Sept. The ration of provisions from Monday the 24th 21st. inst. seven pounds of Bread, and half ditto Beef, one ditto Pork, six ounces Butter, twelve ditto Cheese, (in lieu of one pound Beef) three pints of Oatmeal, three ditto Pease, one and quarter ditto of Wheat, in lieu of one pint Pease.

boats came over, and fired near three hundred rounds, but mostly shells—they did not do any considerable damage to the southward. Our prams discovered them pretty early, and made a very free return:—the siring from the garrison at them was chiefly from the New Mole and South Bastion—We took the advantage to sire during their stay, into their camp, from the extremity of the Devil's Tongue.

The enemy from the land-side keep up the bombardment and cannonade, and are attentively employed at work on the isthmus, improving and advancing their lines of approach.

from England. A xebec chaced her under the garrison guns, and exchanged several shot with her, but could not prevent her from entering the port. During the course of the night, the merlons (that have been heightened) off Fort-Barbara, took sire, which occasioned the garrison to pour in a great quantity of shot and shells.

A few small vessels arrived at the Orange-Grove—It is likely they have brought provision for the Spanish camp, as their army musticause a great consumption in the province of Andalusta,

Sept.

lusia, which at best is but poor, and badly sup- 1781

plied with cattle.

The enemy have not ceased firing these soth. days, but have kept up a regular and determined cannonade: They have not killed and wounded many, though a person would think it impossible for a bird to escape, amidst fuch showers of shot. On the sea-side all is quiet, nor has any shipping of force appeared, either from East or West to molest us. enemy are very tedious in commencing the florm, and really our expectation begins to They have bombarded us now near fix months, and General Alvarez is as far from taking pollession of the garrison as he was at first, although they have discharged from their batteries, according to the nearest calculation, between thirty and forty thousand rounds of thot and shells. He may view the rock with his perspective, from the camp of St. Roque, but if he wishes to examine the workmanship of the walls, and the strength of the fortification, he must come much nearer, or return without the gratification of his curiofity.

I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately Yours.

LETTER

LETTER XXV.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

Oct. 5. E VERY thing remains much in the fame foct. 5. In fituation as when I finished my last letter. Admiral Barcello and his squadron occupy the port of Algaziras, from whence now and then a xebec or galley will occasionly push out, merely to command respect. We have not observed a signal on the Spanish towers at Cabritta a long time, but we expect, whenever the naval power sails from Cadiz harbour, it will be immediately noised along the coast. The soldiery appear impatient for the grand attack, and attentively watch the variation of the wind, as a westerly breeze only will wast their armament to the place of action.

7th. Very little wind at W. Last night the gun and mortar-boats came over, and fired excessive brisk upon the southward: the garrison and shipping returned the same, but the enemy did not do any damage on shore. We fired several shells into their camp from Old Mole-Head. The enemy keep working on the isthmus, and maintain the land cannonade with surv.

reth. This day the enemy fired upon us with great warmth, which was freely returned by the batteries upon the hill. Unfortunately during the time, a shell, which burst, killed Ensign Stevens of the 39th regiment—Several men were wounded by the splinters of shells.

The

The Flying Fish cutter, which arrived here 1781 the 25th of September, sailed, unperceived by Oct.

the enemy.

it

lt.

nd

of

un

cef-

fon

ene-

We

Old

the

nade

with

d by

ately

cilled

veral

ells.

The

Wind E. This day the enemy's line of battle ships sailed to the westward. From this
circumstance, we conclude that the sleet equiping at Cadiz is destined to act against some
other place, or there could not be any necessity
to remove those ships from their station. On
the land-side the enemy keep up the fire, and
this day it is reported an additional mortar
was mounted in St. Carlos. We fired very hot
on their advanced works.

The enemy, yesterday afternoon, had some 17th. artillery-practice in their camp, but we could not particularly make out the meaning, as we only observed some smoke, and heard the report of the ordnance. On the isthmus several working parties continue their labours, which

the batteries unremittingly fire upon.

This day a hot cannonade was kept up on 20th, both fides for many hours—Lieutenant Tinlin, Assistant-Engineer, and four soldiers, were wounded thereby. Our fire apparently put the enemy frequently in confusion, as several men were seen carrying on bearers along the shore toward their camp.

This day there was a general change of 21st. quarters with the soldiery—those regiments quartered in town marched and took possession of the southward encampments, and the others marched for the town-district. Arrived a xebec from the West at Algaziras. The enemy as usual keep up the sire.

This morning we discovered the enemy had 22d sinished a battery of fix embrazures from Mill-

Tower,

23d.

Oct. began on the 18th September. It faces the Old Mole and Water-Port, and is constructed on purpose for the annoyance of those posts. We fired very warm upon it from Montague's bastion, and the upper batteries.

Last night two soldiers deserted from us to the enemy; they cannot carry any intelligence that will prove prejudicial to the welfare of the

garrison.

About two this afternoon, a great firing was heard in the Gut—the Spanish towers had a red flag hoisted, and several gallies pushed from Algaziras to the westward.—We fear some unfortunate vessel, destined for this place, has

2

u

fe

a

W

or th

fo

ri

not

fallen into the enemy's clutches.

This day we had the pleasure to set the enemy's new work on sire, by howitzer-shells from Montague's bastion, which occasioned the enemy to redouble their cannonade from their forts and lines. With much difficulty, danger, and loss, they got the fire extinguished: on our side we had some few wounded.

zures of their new battery with fand and fascines; from this it is evident that the platforms for the cannon are not laid; it will therefore be fome days before they can have them mounted for action. We give them a plentiful discharge of small shells, which must prove very disadvantageous to them in their proceedings.

A report is now received from the batteries, that a Spanish officer (as they could plainly perceive his uniform) was knocked off the Mill-Battery as he was standing upon the glacis, taking an observation of our works. There is

not any doubt but he was an engineer, which 1781 will be a loss to the enemy, as they have some Oct. of the most celebrated for fortification now in their service.

A heavy fire all night from the Black Battery, 26th. forts, and lines. This day, Lieutenant Vicars, of the 56th regiment, received a wound. The Spanish gallies that failed to the west the 23d. instant, have returned to their old station.

Wind W. About eleven this forenoon a fail 30th. appeared standing for the Bay. Two Spanish cruizers under Ape's Hill fired a fignal gun, upon which eleven gun-boats fallied out from Algaziras. When they came up with her, the opened her ports, and discharged several rounds of grape, and continued firing till she came pretty near Europa, where the enemy boarded her, and carried her off in triumph. She was an English cutter, and fought well, nor according to opinion, would the have been captured had not the wind dropped. The enemy kept up a spirited fire from the land side.

Last night arrived, with a fresh breeze at 31st. Welt, the Unicorn cutter, and four other veffels, from Faro, laden with fruit and poultry, a very feafonable and excellent supply, as the garrison are very much necessitated for vegetables, fruit, and fresh diet. The New Mole wharf, this morning, was quite crowded, every one being anxious to buy fomething, although the articles fold at an exorbitant rate: onions fold for fix rials per pound (two shillings and live pence farthing) oranges and lemons one rial eight quarts each (feven pence halfpenny sterling) the poultry at the usual prices, viz. three dollars and an half for a hen. Common

green

1781 green tea, brought by the Unicorn, fold for Oct. fourteen dollars per pound (two pounds five 31st. shillings and fixpence) and a loaf of sugar five dollars, nearly seventeen shillings per pound. This is rare traffic! We hope these times will not last long, and a communication will be opened, so that supplies may be brought in and sold at a moderate price; or, should they continue, the garrison will, of course, be exhausted of all cash in a short time.

The enemy keep up a constant fire—Their works on the isthmus are going forward, and their naval and military force remains just the

fame.

This month is finished without any great exploits, or coming to close quarters.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER XXVI.

Gibraliar.

th

0

0

0

0

DEAR BROTHER,

Nov.3 THREE days more elapsed without any particular circumstance intervening, nor has the enemy appeared to be so attentive to their labours. The siege is continued by our opponents, who adopt every measure to distress us, notwithstanding which, the British troops apparently difregard the threatning soe, who

who thunder forth their vengeance every 1781 hour. Nov.

The foldiery are very much afflicted with the fcurvy, owing to the falt diet, and some of them so bad that they have lost the entire use of their limbs, and represent the picture of decrepid old age. Our Governor has humanely ordered the director of the hospital, to serve out daily to the surgeons of the several corps, one pound of onions for every ten men, and two lemons or oranges for every man in the scurvy. This, it is hoped, will contribute greatly to their cure.

The gun and mortar boats came over, and 4th. discharged all their ammunition upon the garrison, while the land batteries took part in the cannonade. An incessant sire on every side continued for upwards of two hours, during which time Ensign Edgar of the 56th, and Lieutenant John Frazer of the 73d regiments, were wounded—the latter lost a leg by a shot from the Black Battery; several soldiers also were wounded.

Nine fettees came from the West, and anchored at the Orange Grove—We suppose them to be market boats.

Yesterday we fired from the garrison at a 9th. Danish dogger, that came nearly under the guns, but could not make her stand in. On the land side the enemy fired excessively warm, which was answered from Willis's and the upper batteries. This morning we discovered that the enemy had erected another battery on the isthmus, seemingly fronting our lines—They are determined to have a sufficient number of pieces of ordnance mounted for battering our walls. Wind

Nov. nix ordnance cutter, with Brigadier-General 13th. Ross, passenger. She had a brush with a cruizer at the entrance of the Bay, but not of any consequence—Her intelligence is kept very secret.

This forenoon a cutter from the westward was chased by a frigate and three gallies, but before she could reach the garrison she was becalmed and boarded: She plied her guns in a spirited manner, but the superiority of power obliged her to yield. The enemy brought her into Algaziras, under her ensign reversed.

A very heavy fire from the land batteries, directed towards the hill and town, during which we had the loss of two men killed, and three wounded.

14th. A brisk fire from the lines and forts.—The enemy worked very hard last night on the isthmus, and completed the battery they began on the 9th inst. We fired several thirteen

inch shells upon them this morning.

16th. This day a shell, fired from St. Carlos, sell near George Picardo's vineyard, where it burst, but did not do any damage. A splinter of another, which exploded in the air, struck the south end of the naval hospital, which is near four thousand yards; a most incredible distance for pieces of ordnance to reach. The enemy fired very brisk upon our works from all the ordnance they have mounted; they did much damage to Willis's Battery, and wounded Lieutenant Evans, an assistant engineer, though not dangerously.

The

up

and of

COI

im: Th

ope

ver

ed

ing

the

pla

and

ma

beg

onl

of a

to a

fole

cloti

had

ger

Pov

out

fieg

ties

Sho

mig

of t

busi

The enemy continue their long-range shells 1781 upon the fouthward, which is of great annoy- Nov. ance. Last night a shell fell under the platform 18th. of a tent where two corporals were afleep, when the intolerable fume and stench of the burning composition awakened them, nor could they imagine from whence the smoke proceeded. The shell entered under the boards, when they opened the tent door to let in the air, to prevent being suffocated, at that instant it exploded and blew them fome yards, without receiving any injury; they shortly recovered from their furprize, and turned their eyes to the place where the tent had stood, but the tent and tent-poles, &c. could not be feen, they being torn to pieces, and scattered in many places. In this naked fituation they began a fearch for their wearing apparel, but only found the cuff of a coat in one place, part of a fleeve in another, and their shoes parched to a cinder. Thus forlorn they began to confole each other, when Corporal R-h-ds-n exclaimed, D-n it, I don't care for the loss of my clothes, but all my money is gone!

You probably will imagine, that a man who had so fortunately escaped such imminent danger, would have been thankful to the all-ruling Power for his preservation, and not instantaneously lament his pecuniary loss; but the besieged have been so long inured to the casualties of battle, that its effect is little regarded. Should death be constantly held in view, it might somewhat tend to disposses the soldier of that spirit of heroism, so necessary for the

business of fighting.

Came

the

wi

100

ing

ed

th

G

7116

cei

be

for

de

lig

to

tu

an th

W

ca

ple

tu

at

ſb

to

te.

Nov. Walloon Guards, one of them is a corporal, and feems to be an intelligent man. He fays there are twenty-one thousand men in the camp, waiting the arrival of the naval power, to storm this place: he has given the General a clear and exact description of the works on the isthmus, and the construction of St. Carlos, together with an account of the strength of their guards and working parties, that are employed daily.

The enemy continue to throw their long rangers.* Last night a shell fell at the door of the barrack on the Mole Parade, where it exploded, forced the door open, and broke all the windows. The hand of Providence was visible in the discharge of this shell, for, had it been a yard more to the lest, it must have fallen into the barracks, where two companies

of foldiers are quartered.

fell in Colonel Cochrane's quarters on Scud-hill, but did not do any damage: another near the magazine on the Mole Parade, and several into the Mole Yard, and within the boom. We keep a constant fire upon their works, but they are so well intrenched, that we cannot silence them.

and mortars, and feemingly take a pleasure in reaching the southward. Several shells have fallen this forenoon about South Shed, and Princess of Wales's lines: they cannot reach further

* A phrase made use of by the soldiery, for the incredible length the enemy throw their shells. ther only when there is a strong northerly 1781 wind, which forces the shell with a greater velocity. We fired several times at their work-

ing parties on the isthmus.

This evening, the garrison were highly delighted with the general orders. It is whispered, that the information given by the corporal that came in the 21st instant, has induced the Governor to make a trial of British valour.

EVENING GARRISON ORDERS.

All the grenadiers and light-infantry, and all the men of the 12th, and Hardenberg's regiments, officers and non-commissioned officers, now on duty, to be immediately called in and join their regiments, to form a detachment, consisting of the 12th and Hardenberg's regiments, compleat-The grenadiers and light companies of all the other regiments (who are to be compleated to their full establishment from the battalion companies) one captain, three lieutenants, ten non-commissioned officers, and one bundred artillery, three engineers, seven officers overseers, twelve non-commissioned overseers, and one hadred and fixty workmen from the line, excepting from the 12th and Hardenberg's regiments, and forty workmen from the artificer company—Each man to carry thirty-nine rounds or more, a good flint in his piece, and another in his pocket—No drums, except two with the 12th, and two with Hardenberg's-No swords—The whole to affemble on the Red Sands at twelve o'clock this night—The wine houses to be shut up at six o'clock, and all the soldiers to repair to their quarters-Brigadier Ross to command the detachment—No volunteers will be allowed—Lieutenant-Colonels Dackenhausen, Hugo, Trigge, and Major

1781 Major Maxwell, to meet the Governor at the Field Nov. Officers room, at the South, as foon as possible. 26th. The troops intended for the Sortee to be formed as follows :

> Right. Lieutenant-Colonel Hugo, Grenadiers of Redens and La Mott's, Workmen, Artillery, Hardenberg's Regiment, Light Company 56th

Regiment.

Lieutenant-Colonel Dackenhausen, Centre. Grenadiers and Light Company 39th and 73d Regiments, Workmen, Artillery, Grenadiers of the 56th and 58th Regiments, Major Maxwell.

Lieutenant-Colonel Trigge, Grenadiers and Light Infantry 72d Regiment, Sea. men, Artillery, 12th Regiment, Light Company 58th Regiment.

This morning at two o'clock, the detach-27th. ment of officers, non-commissioned officers and men, under the command of Brigadier-General Ross, marched from the Red Sands, where they had affembled, through Bay-side and Lower Forbes's, to storm the enemy's advanced works-The word fleady was the counterfign. The Spanish centinels, posted in the Gardens, foon discovered the English troops advancing, upon which they fired their mufquets to spread the alarm, and then retreated to St. Carlos. The British army, in a spirited and intrepid manner, rushed on, and, after some opposition, gained possession of the Spanish works, which struck such a panic to the enemy, that the greatest part stationed to defend the place fled with consternation to the

lines,

line

pre oth

Th

and vils

bat

ten dui

go

a f

blaz

ries

tha

batt

gav

feni

up :

thei mer

mer

afte

they

hrec

grap

fuffi

fect,

head

acco

an e

the

ly fa

whic

in pe

lines, to make a position of defence, not ap- 1781 prehending fo unexpected a visit, while the Nov. others fell from the fire of our musquetry. 27th. The business now commenced, the workmen and feamen began with their tomahawks,* devils §, and warlike combustables, to fet the batteries on fire, while the artillery spiked up ten mortars, and eighteen pieces of cannon, during which one of the former happened to go off, and fent a shell to the southward; in a few minutes the isthmus appeared an entire blaze, from the fire of their confuming batteries, and the reflection of the light was fo great, that a person could have read upon our batteries. Thus fuccessful, the whole body gave three huzzas, which confequently must fensibly aggravate and vex the foe. We kept up a hot cannonade from the garrison, upon their two forts and Barrier-gate, to cover our men, and prevent their fallying out. A regiment of horse appeared near Fort-Barbary, but after they had made feveral feints to come on, they thought prudent to retire. The enemy fired upon the detachment with round and grape, but their cannon, for want of being fufficiently depressed, had not the defired effect, as most of the shot slew over our people's Our gallant and veteran Governor, accompanied by Captain Curtis, went out to be an eye-witness of the transaction; and when the bulinels was fully accomplished, he fmilingly faid to Captain Curtis, "How beautiful the

^{*} Small hatchets, having a fharp point on the back.

§ An inflammable composition bound in small bundles, which, after the bands of the sascines are cut, are stuck in between the openings.

Nov. officer and feveral Spanish foldiers were put to 27th. the fword: an artillery officer was made prifoner attempting to escape with the keys of the powder magazines, which were immediately opened, to give the fire of the batteries a communication to the ammunition; after which the keys were delivered to our Governor on the isthmus, by Captain Whetham, of

the Royal Artillery.

The datachment having done all that men could do, retreated to the garrison with the fatisfaction of destroying, in fifteen minutes, a work estimated at three million of dollars, bringing with them prisoners, one sub-lieutenant of Walloon Guards, (Baron Helmstat) one fub-lieutenant of Artillery, and ten Men: with the small loss on our side of four men killed, one officer, (Lieutenant Tweedie of the 12th Foot, who received a grape-shot in his thigh) two ferjeants and twenty-two men wounded, and one man missing. The enemy had only recovered their furprize, and beat to arms, when the detachment was repassing off Landport-gate, fo that you will fay we were expeditious in destruction. Several of the Spanish powder magazines blew up after the retreat of the British troops.

The General expressed the greatest approbation of the officers and men, which you will

perceive by the following

GARRISON ORDERS.

The bravery and conduct of the whole detachment, officers, seamen, and soldiers, on this glorious occasion, surpasses the Governor's utmost acknowledgments.

STATE

STRENGTH OF THE DETACHMENT THAT MADE THE SORTEE.

		Officers.	Non-commit. Officers.	Drummers.	Rank and File.
Lt. Colonel Hugo.	Reden's Grenadiers. La Mott's ditto. Workmen & Artillery Hardenberg's Regt. 56th Light Infantry.	5 5 16 3	7 7 4 34 3	0 0 0 2 0	71 71 50 296 57
Lt. Col. Dackenbaufen, Major Maxwell.	39th Grenadiers 39th Light Infantry. Workmen & Artillery 73d Grenadiers 73d Light Infantry 56th Grenadiers 58th ditto	3 3 6 4 4 3 3	5	0000000	57 57 150 101 101 57
Lieut. Col.	72d Grenadiers 72d Light Infantry Seamen 12th Regiment 58th Light Infantry.	20	The same of the same	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	
	Total	6	8 136	4	1914

STATE of the GARRISON at the time of the SORTEE.	Rank and File. Drummers and Fifers Serjeants. Mates. Surgeons. Quar. Matters. Adjutants. Chaplains. Enfigns. Lieutenants. Captains. Majors. Lt. Colonels. Colonels.	1 3 3 2 6 58 14 0 3 0 2 136 4 1914 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 28 6 557 5 5 5 5 5 5 4 1331 3 7 8 944 277 179 2531	6 8 8 72 132 46 310 8 916 441 189 5002	are included as Captains; non-commissioned officers of Arrty-one Drummers, and sifty-one privates, of what remains boys.
STATE of the GARR		Detachment composed the Sorter. Sick and wounded.	Total of the Garrifon.	N. B. Brevet Majors are inclutillery as Serjeants. Forty-one I ed in the Garrifon were boys.

CASUALS

in the differeent Corps in before-mentioned Sortee.

e di Tanggaran da Sanggaran da	KILLED.				WOUNDED.					
CORPS.	Officers.	Serjeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	Officers.	Serjeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	Miffing.	
R. Artillery.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	I	0	
12th Regt.	0	0	0	I	1	0	0	1	0	
39th. —	0	0	.0	0	0	I	0	0	0	
56th. —	0	0	Q	0	0	0	•	0	0	
58th. —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
72d. —	0 0	0	0	0	. 0	0	0	I	0	
73d. — Hardenberg's	0	0	0	1 2	0	0	0	2	0	
Hardenberg's	0	0	0	2	0	I	0	ΙI	0	
Reden's —	0	0	Ó	0	0	0	0	0	I	
La Mott's —	0	0 0 0 0	0	0	O	0	0 0	0	0	
Artificer camp.	0	O	0	0	0	0	0	I	0	
Seamen.	0	0	0	0	С	0	0	5	0	
Total	0	0	0	4	1	2	0	22	I	

d

ti

1

17

V

11

11

tl

Nov. yesterday afternoon and nihgt, and are still 28th. on sire. They last night fired very warm, with grape shot, on the isthmus, supposing we were again advancing, until a shell discharged from the upper batteries on St. Carlos convinced them that we had not any men there. A large body of men yesterday evening marched from their camp to the lines, to reinforce the different posts, apprehending we should pay them a visit in that quarter.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The Adjutant-General having laid before the Governor the following note from Brigadier-General Ross, he is pleased to direct that the same shall be

inserted in the orders of the day.

Brigadier Ross begs of the Adjutant-General, that he would mention to the Governor his most humble request, that his Excellency would be pleased to accept of the Brigadier's warmest acknowledgment of the great honor conferred on him, by commanding the detachment that formed the Sortee. To the Officers, and every one of whom, he would wish to make the most public avowal of their firm good behaviour on the occasion.

oth. The enemy yesterday and to-day have been viewing the ashes of their late works, and with penitential tears, moaning their irretrievable loss, and endless disgrace. We keep up a smart fire at present, and it is afferted, that it will be continued, to prevent the enemy from repairing the damage their batteries have received. General Alvarez, there is not any doubt

doubt, will study mischief in retaliation, and 1781 exert all his intellectual faculties in the promo- Nov. tion of plans, projects, stratagems, and inventions, to gain revenge; but while success smiles upon our arms, and glory sounds from shore to shore, the transporting melody inspires with desperate animation, and invigorates the warrior's zeal to such a degree, that sleets, armies, camps, garrisons, forts, batteries, and intrenchments, with all the hostile pomp and threatnings of the soe, are disregarded, and stamped with contempt.

I am,

Dear Brother,

With the greatest affection,

Yours, &c.

LETTER XXIVII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE enemy have not begun repairing their late approaches, but feemingly intend it, as feveral parties unarmed frequently make their appearance. They return a spirited fire from their lines and forts, but their isthmus bombardment, alas! is over.

Wind W. S. W. Three men of war, convoying twenty-one fail of merchantmen passed through

Dec.

3d.

Dec. fail to the Eastward attempting also to pass to the Westward, but were forced to put back.—
It is conjectured they are both French convoys.

7th. Wind S. W. This day an English cutter was captured by the enemy's gun boats, after an hour's spirited fire on both sides. She crouded all the sail she possibly could, but the wind having dropped almost to a calm, the garrison and shipping were incapable of assisting her.

oth. Wind E. This forenoon two frigates (one French and one Spanish) arrived from the Eastward at Algaziras; and this afternoon about a dozen large settees arrived at the Orange Grove. The enemy have done nothing particular on

the isthmus.

13th.

had begun repairing the ruins of St. Carlos, and that feveral parties were bufily employed. We accordingly discharged a considerable quantity of grape shot and small shells upon them, which made them desist from their labour.

A small sloop was this forenoon taken off Tarifa, by a galley and three gun boats. It is likely that she was bound for this place.

Wind N. E. Last night sailed the Unicorn, cutter, for England, the breeze being very stiff,

fupposed she got through the gut.

flipped out of New Mole, and proceeded on her passage to England. The breeze was favourable from the East. The enemy have not detached any cruizers to the Westward, probably they consider these two cutters not worth the pursuit.

The.

ta

ta

lig

he

th

up

fre

the

my

tha

or

fro

in

Ge Ma

rifo his

ak

101

vit

The Spaniards occasionally labour at repair- 1781 ing their works. but when they observe the Dec. flash of our ordnance, they immediately get 19th. under cover, but we endeavour to annoy them with our small shells, which drop into their works, and then burst: these consequently must be fatal to them, as their traverses were all confumed together with the gabions and fascines of all their advanced works Spaniards continue their usual fire both by day and night.

Wind W. During the course of the night, 20th. two vessels arrived with supplies of butter, potatoes, and beef, from Portsmouth, having had a passage of twenty days. They bring intelligence, that the day before they left Faro, they heard the accounts of the victorious fally from the garrison, papers having been received there

upon the interesting subject.

a

n

ls.

1.

1-

n,

off

is

n,

ff,

ng

on fa-

ve rd,

iat

he

Several bundles of faicines were brought from the lines to the ifthmus last night, and the fand thrown up in many places, The enemy apparently have forgot their defeat, and that they ever had erected advanced works; or furely the recollection would prevent them from any further attempts to construct others in their place.

Last night, it being a brisk Levanter, Major 21st. General Ross (appointed to that rank by His Majesty's command, and declared in the Garrifon orders of yesterday) sailed from hence on his passage to Portugal, from whence he will ake shipping for England, where there is not the least doubt but he will be received with eclat; and every mark of approbation, from

1781 from a grateful nation, for his bravery and Dec. singular service, on the 27th of last November.

The Spaniards are very bufy on the isthmus, and have repaired a great part of the ruins of their late works:—They seem determined on their re-construction, notwithstanding our heavy and spirited fire from Willis's and the upper batteries. The Black Battery and Fort St. Phil. lippe kept up an incessant cannonade all this morning upon the garrison.

wind E. Arrived a frigate, floop, cutter, and feveral xebecs from the castward, and anchored between *Orange-Grove* and *Algaziras*. A settee was taken off *Ceuta* point, by a galley,

and carried in there.

wind W. N. W. Passed by a convoy of neutrals, in all about 30 sail.—The enemy hoisted a signal at *Cabritta*, not knowing who they were, upon which a xebec went out and spoke to them.

This morning early, died in the naval hof-29th. pital, Baron Helmstat, taken prisoner at St Carlos, on the 27th last month, and who since had a leg amputated, owing to a wound he received by a musquet-ball in that action. The corps was drefled in full uniform, according to the Spanish custom, and the General and principal officers, walked in folemn procession to the New-Mole, where a flag of truce waited to convey the body to the Orange-Grove: A band of music playing a dirge, and a company of grenadiers, escorted the decorated bier to the water's edge, and upon the corpfe being lowered into the boat, the latter fired three volleys in honor of the deceased. The cossin had all that art and ingenuity could invent, to render it elegant,

ld

er.

15,

of

on

ea-

per

hil-

his

ter,

an-

ras.

ley,

neu-

ited

hey

oke

hof-

Car-

had

ceiv-

corps

o the

cipal

) the

con-

nd of

gre-

e wa-

vered

eys in

ll that

it elegant, gant, which must fensibly please the enemy, 1781 when they consider the respect paid by the Dec. Governor to this fallen officer. He was young, 29th. handsome, and on the point of nuptial celebration with a young lady, born in the province of Andalusia, and who, during his sickness, had furnished him (by flags of truce) with wine and other refreshing diet, which this garrison could not afford; but the day before his decease, she came half bay over, (hearing of his dangerous lituation) to vilit him, and take her last adieu! but the Adjutant-General, who went to receive the flag of truce, assured her, fhe could not be permitted to land until the Governor's pleasure was known, and that the next day he would wait upon her with his Excellency's command; initead of which, the received the lifeless trunk of him on whom her every with and happiness was founded.

The enemy are diligently repairing the 30th. works on the isthmus,—a shell fired from Willis's, this day, fell among a party of their workmen, about 50 or 60 in number, which we have the greatest reason to believe did con-The Spanish forts and lines iderable milchief. continue the cannonade and bombardment.— One foldier killed and two wounded this day,

by the explosion of a shell.

A brisk fire on both sides continues, and the enemy keep conftantly at work.—A ftrong party are employed near the Centre-stone Guard House, errecting a battery. The naval force remains quiet, nor have we been troubled with the gun and mortar-boats fome time pait.

This

Dec. decifive stroke, though it has been successful on our part, and crowned our arms with glory and conquest.

I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately Yours,

LETTER XXVIII.

Gibraltar.

b

ft

tl

ty

cl

tr

tv

de

W

 L_{ℓ}

pe

W

Bo

DEAR BROTHER,

Jan. 1. A Sall my letters are intended for your in-Jan. 1. A formation, I shall endeavour, as far as I am able, to give you a description of this envied and battered Rock, which has excited the

whole attention of Spain and France.

GIBRALTAR is in 36 degrees 7 minutes north latitude, it projects into the fea, and is in length near a league from north to fouth; in breadth irregular from half to three quarters of a mile; its head is frequently hid in the clouds. The fummit of the Rock is about 1400 feet perpendicular above the fea. It is joined to the continent by a neck of low and deep fand of the fame breadth as the Rock it felf, but which widens confiderably towards the Spanish lines. This is is near a league in length, and, with the opposite coast, forms a noble and fase bay eight miles over.

The hill is of fuch an irregular form, that 1782 when you are near it you cannot view the Jan. 1. whole from any one part. Its head clearly faces the East, from thence to the Moorish Castle it fronts the north forward as far as the Signal House, the North-west, it then takes a turn and continues to Europa Point due South. On account of this oblique fituation, when you approach the town from the inundation, you can see no farther of the Rock than the Moorish Castle, and even in town your fight is bounded by the old Moorish Wall [called by some Charles the Fifth's] After you have paffed Southport Gate, and got upon the red fands, the town is hid from you, and all the hill to the North of the Signal House. The back of the hill is scalped and inaccessible, and this particular circumstance forms its chief The head of the Rock is almost itrength. perpendicular, and composed of white stone which is burnt for lime. The batteries facing theilthmusare very itrong and inug, which are carried on from the fummit of the Rock, to the water's edge at the Old Mole, the extremity of which the Spaniards term Una Bocca de Fugo. The remains of the Moorish Castle are close to the batteries, at which place is the entrance into the lines; above the lines is Willis's and the upper batteries. Under the castle are two batteries near Crouchett's house and gardens, lower down, and almost level with the water, is the Grand Battery, under which is Above the ruins of the town ap-Landport. pear the walls of the army hospital, from which you have a view of the remains of Bethlehem barrack, formerly a nunnery, the White

na

I

n-

he

tes;

15

th;

ers

the

out

is

and

it-

rds.

gue

aft,

ver. The

1782 White Cloisters where the commissioners of the Jan. 1. navy used to reside, formerly a monastery, and St. Francis where the Governor refides: The building, before the enemy fired, was plain, more convenient than elegant, but plea. fantly fituated near the bay, with a garden ad. joining. The British church is adjacent to this building, but now divine fervice is per. formed on the South Parade, on account of the enemy's cannonade. The Spanish church for the performance of the Roman Catholic Reli. gion was near the Grand Parade in the Green Market, the walls of which are yet standing. The inhabitants and foldiers repair to church by the beat of a drum. Near Southport stands the King's yard Grand store, and Victu. alling-office, which, notwithstanding the ene. my's bombardment, has not fuffered any con. Above Southport, on the out. fiderable injury. fide of the gate is the citadel. The garrison is bounded by ftrong walls, and feveral well-exe. cuted batteries, particularly the King's, South, Montague's Bastion, and Grand Battery. The King's Bastion is able to contain one thousand men, being bomb proof, and is of a noble construction, planned by General Boyde, when Governor of the garrison.

The entrance to the garrison from the ishmus, is so narrow, that it is impossible to march an army more than six men abreast; and which passage is undermined,* so that, if necessity should require it to be charged with barrels

t

fi

te

tl

n

h

in

0

^{*} A mine is a hole dug, to be filled with powder to blow it up, but this is built with brick, and arched over, so that the explosion would be the greater.

of powder, and sprung, the besiegers would 1782 suffer considerably, and be thrown into the Jan. 1. greatest consusion. There are several pieces of cannon directed upon this path, loaded with grape-shot, which would scour the whole length, and cut off the assailants as fast as they advanced. The cannon placed at the Old Mole-Head, being level with the water, would sweep the whole isthmus; besides other pieces of ordnance placed in advantageous situations for the purpose of slanking.*

The principal buildings to the fouthward are, the Naval Hospital, now occupied by the sick soldiery and seamen; the Barracks for the troops, and two Pavilions for Officers; they are chiefly built of stone, and well suited for convenience; the rooms are large and airy, and have a handsome appearance from the

Bay.

as

a-

d-

to

er-

he

or

eli-

een

ng.

ch

nds

tu-

ne-

on-

ut-

1 15

xe-

uth,

The

and

on-

Go-

fth.

arch

nich

flity

rels

of

ler to over, Near the New Mole are two magazines for powder, where it is lodged when landed from the ships, and as it is wanted, removed from thence to the Grand Magazine in the Moorish Castle. Near them is a pleasant vineyard, of a small length, which yields a great quantity of vegetables, but not sufficient to supply a sixteenth part of the garrison. It is supposed that the owner clears five thousand dollars per annum by it.—There are several houses on the heights that have been built by the officers and inhabitants, which command a delightful prospect of the Bay and the Gut; in short, most of the scuthward is covered with small and convenient dwellings.

The

^{*} In military affairs, is the fide of an army or battalion.

Jan. 1. water from the rain which descends from the heights of the Rock, through a body of sand and lime-stone, into a reservoir; this contains the annual supply till the next rainy season, which is towards the latter end of the year.—

The shipping are supplied from this reservoir, by the means of pipes, which communicate near the sea, where there is a small cistern with spouts. The Faculty agree in opinion that it is good wholesome water.

The following is the STATE of the STRENGTH of the several CORPS now here.

CORPS.	Str	rength.	CORPS.	Strength.
Royal Ar 12th. 39th. 56th. 58th. 72d.	tillery	448	73d. Hardenber Reden's La Mott's Artificer's	347

4th. Wind East. This morning early the St. Philip's Castle arrived here from Mahon with dispatches, having twenty-two Spanish prisoners on board, taken by the English in a fally made from that place. They say that General Murray is very closely besieged, and that the forces under his command, make the most stubborn opposition against both the French and Spanish troops who lay before the Castle.

The enemy on the isthmus keep repairing their works, and have got a great part rebuilt.

The

th

ne

nd

ns n,

ır,

ate

rn

on

TH

gth.

H

45

47

56 89

50

St.

ith

ers

ide

ray

ces

orn

ing

ilt. 'he The fire on each fide briskly continues, but 1782 most spirited from the close of the evening until the dawn of the morning, as the chief part of their labours are executed during the night-season.

A xebec arrived from the eastward this 8th. forenoon, and anchored opposite Sandy Bay.—
The working-parties on the isthmus have not done any thing particular since the 4th inst.

Last night the St. Philip's Castle sailed to the 10th. eastward, and a small boat for Tetuan, in order to setch supplies. All quiet in the Bay: We cannot imagine the reason that the enemy are not so alert and attentive as they were.

Wind E. Sailed the Henry and Mercury pri- 13th. vateers to the west. None of the Spanish cruizers went in chace of them. The enemy threw up a branch of sand-work last night upon the isthmus.

This day two cutters made their appearance 16th. Wind N. E. The tower at Cabritin the Gut. ta let fly a fignal, upon which the Spanish fquadron got in motion, confisting of a frigate, one large xebec, one fmaller ditto, feveral gun-boats, and itood acrois to intercept them. The gun-boats got a-head, and discharged several thot at them, which the cutters returned, and kept their course, standing for the ealtward, it being impracticable to work the port, as the wind blew right against them. The Spanish cruizers went in chace, and are The works on the ifthnow all out of fight. mus are going forward.

Antonio Juanico, a Minorquen, who arrived 17th. here in a fettee some time past, is convicted of having come for the purpose of procuring intelligence

1782 telligence for the Spanish General, and ordered Jan. for execution on the 4th of February ensuing.

18th. The enemy fire upon us with great fury, to prevent our annoying their working parties.

Several wounded this afternoon.

h. The town and fouthward regiments exchanged quarters this morning, to continue three months before another exchange takes place, unless circumstances should make it no.

ceffary.

The isthmus parties are laboriously employed in forwarding their works, and an incessant fire is kept up from the Spanish lines and forts, upon our works and parties on the hill, as we are repairing the breaches made, and constructing some additional fortification to shelter our men, and to destroy, if possible, the enemy's approaches.

be bufy at Algaziras, and in the rivers. We imagine they are constructing additional gunboats there, to co-operate with those they already have. Isthmus working parties conti-

nue nightly to be employed.

Wind S. E. The two cutters chased to the 29th. eastward by the enemy on the 16th instant, arrived early this morning: they prove to be the Viper and Lively, laden with ordnance ftores; also arrived the Dartmouth Tartar cutter, last from Lisbon in three days, with dif-A frigate, xebec, and some gunboats have returned from their vain pursuit in chase of the Viper and Lively, mortified with having miffed their eager prey, and anchored at their old station, watching every fail that The enemy are preparing feappears in fight. veral

vera1 tweer what with of th them thoug are a burn beach ient certa garri hard whic have inve of t them terer

you

then

thare

Wit

myic

veral fire-ships at the mouth of the rivers be- 1782 tween Algaziras and Orange Grove, but for Jan. what purpose we really cannot conjecture, 29th. without it is for pastime, and the recreation of their naval and land-forces, by reminding them that they are inclinable to do mischief, though incapable of effecting it. Our shipping are all boomed in, and without they intend to burn the clefts of the Rock, and fet our fandy beach on fire, they had better keep their prefent distance, nor unthinkingly rush on, where certain ruin must be the consequence. garrison are pretty healthy, considering the hardships, dangers, and scarcity of fresh diet, which at prefent prevails; but of late, they have been very much afflicted with the most inveterate fcurvy, which deprived many of the use of their limbs, by rendering them stiff and swelled. The slesh of the sufferers, I assure you, was almost black; and you would pity (were you a spectator) to view them limping to their post, to partake of a share with their comrades in opposing the foe. With every good wish, permit me to subscribe myfelf

Your loving Brother.

LETTER XXIX.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1782 THE besiegers, spurred on by hope and ex. Feb. 1. pectation, to work the reduction of the fortress, are indefatigably employed in for. warding the re-construction of St. Carlos, and the adjacents. From their batteries they con. tinue a plentiful discharge of ordnance, by which we now and then lofe a man. We anxioully long for the day of attack, as our fitua. tion is rather deplorable in respect of provision, and the harrassing duties of guards, picquets, working detachments, and parties, forwards the general with for engagement. constant duty with the foldiery is ten' and eleven days and nights up, and probably when it comes to your turn to have a night to fleep in your tent, the enemy from the fea-line difturbs you from repose.

Prices of Provision brought by the Viper and Lively cutters, on the 29th of last month.

Common Green Tea per lb.	-	j	[.1	1	0
Hams per ditto		-	0	' 3	3
Corned Beef ditto	•	-	0	1	8
Port Wine per dozen			I	14	5
A sheep	•	-	14	1	0
Cheefe per lb	•	-	0	4	10h
Butter ditto					

The enemy carry on their works in a rapid manner. They last night erected a battery of five embrazures on the west side of the Mill-Tower;

the ceive deav

day, two mons

tery this a ing to as the got had Lifbon

The ly buf nately mation They firing.

with pof war confide telligen ng nat ars.

Win

n miss heir at ectual. Arri

prnish

the heights of the Rock, appears to have refeb. ceived a complete repair. Our batteries endeavour, as much as possible, to prevent the executing of their labours on the isthmus.

Antonio Juanico, ordered for execution this day, is respited. Arrived from the westward two small vessels from Portugal, laden with lemons and oranges, a very refreshing supply.

A small boat, that appeared off Cabritta-6th. Point, was fired at several times from the battery at that place, but without effect; upon this a Spanish lugger got under sail, endeavouring to cut her off, but to very little purpose, as the boat had nearly anchored before she had got half-bay over. She proves to be from Lisbon, laden with fruit and oranges.

The enemy's cruizers have been particular- 10th. ly bufy all this day, running in and out alternately. We imagine they have received intimation of fome vessel bound for this place. They on the land side keep working and

firing.

f

Wind N. E. Arrived fafe, the Young Sabine, 13th. with porter, wine, and potatoes. Our men of war's boats towed her round Europa. It is confidently afferted, that she has brought intelligence to the Governor of a very interesting nature, but we cannot learn the particulars. The Spanish cruizers were disappointed in missing the capture of this vessel, as all heir attempts to effect it were rendered inefectual.

Arrived the brig Eliza, with fundry articles in board, for the use of the garrison. The prnish cruizers, who returned yesterday even-

ing

1782 ing to Algaziras, made a fignal too late, to do Feb. themselves any service: they are cruifing in 16th. the Bay and round the Rock, but keep at long. gun shot distance; they came near Europa, but a few shot from that post made them steer ano. ther courie.

> The Spanish works are brifkly forwarded, the isthmus is almost become a scene of en. chantment: the enemy certainly must employ a confiderable number of men, or otherwise they could not make fuch rapid progress in

> > n f

> > 18

er

in

CC G

he

br

ta bi d iii I c

their advances

Wind N. W. This morning a fail appeared standing from the westward; the Spanish tow. ers let fly a fignal of an enemy's appearance; a frigate, xebec, and feveral gun-boats, imme diately got under way, while the battery at Cabritta-point fired feveral rounds. bore down, when the English vessel opened upon her, and made her haul her wind, and soon afterwards she dropped aftern, the frigate and gun-boats then flood across to intercept her, which she as spiritedly engaged, receive ing two broad-fides from the frigate, and le veral rounds from the gun-boats. After la ving engaged a confiderable time, fuch an perior force, she had the good fortune to go in without much damage, and proves to the Flying-fish cutter, commanded by Captain Anthony, in eight days from England, lade with ordnance stores. Some of the enemy boats being drove very near the garrio the batteries at Europa discharged a to shot at them, but plying their oars brisk they got off without any injury. The various manœuvres of the latter, afforded the garrie much entertainment.

Wind S. W. Last night a brig from the 1782 westward entered the Bay, observing the lights Feb. in the Spanish camp, steered for that place, 18th. imagining it must have been the town of Gib-The captain continued his course till he came opposite to Prince Orange's battery, when the officer on duty there challenged the thip, who answered, " From Cork." The captain now discovered his error, and finding he was steering under the enemy's batteries, put about, and run aground at the back of the Old Mole, when Fort Phillippe and the Black-Battery began a fire upon her. The captain, when he landed, in a jocular manner endeavoured to apologize for the militake, by faying, he intended to run his ship up to his merchant's store-house. She has brought a fupply of butter, pork, and potatoes, which is intended to be landed, if possible, this night. Her name is the Governor Elliot brig, Samuel Seldon, Master.

n

e; neat oec ned and rate cept fehai fu-

Win

This morning we observed a battery of 12 20th. embrazures constructed on the isthmus, and in other parts the sand was thrown up as a cover. The enemy fired very warmly on the Governor Elliot brig, and have greatly damaged her—part of the cargo has been landed. A

brisk fire continues on both fides.

A Portugueze schooner from the west, was taken between Tarifa and Cabritta-point, and brought into Algaziras, where there is not any doubt she will be condemned. The wind having sprung up easterly, a Tartan arrived from Leghorn, with a cargo of wine and useful necessaries. Several gun-boats also arrived from the east; we imagine them to be the remainder that chased the two cutters on the 16th of January.

23d.

1782 Wind E. Sailed last night from hence the Feb. Viper, Lively, and Dartmouth Tartar cutters.

were illuminated, and a number of rockets thrown up. The enemy keep hard and conftantly at work on the isthmus.

Wind W. This morning the shipping at Algaziras was dressed with full colours, at noon a feu de joye was fired by land and sea,

car

Th

mo

Grains

tre

Ma

on t

the

ene

and

may

a ip

and

they

fire ifthr

nade

enen which

worl valo

upor

the dang

T

and repeated three times.

A ship appeared in the Ossing, standing for this place, when a frigate and xebec made ready. She continued her course, and received their fire with great intrepidity, plying her guns in an heroic manner. After about an hour's fire she got in, and proves to be the Mercury store-ship, Captain Heighington, from Lisbon, with wine, poultry, and fruit.

westward, a frigate, two xebecs, and two cutters, as a reinforcement to the *Spanish* squadron. The *Spanish* working parties are bushy

employed.

25th. Wind W. Arrived the St. Ann of 28 guns, in twelve days from London, with ordnance stores. Not any particular intelligence received, except that she was chased some leagues to the westward, and escaped during the night.

28th. Wind E. Arrived the Indian King, from Leghorn, with timber and liquors, a brisk fire on both sides was kept up. The enemy continue laboriously working on the isthmus, forwarding, with all possible expedition, their new approaches. The nearest branch is almost in a line with the north angle of Landport Garden.

Your affectionate Brother.

LETTER XXX.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE victors of one day are often defeated 1782 by another, and lose those laurels that were Mar. 1 carried in triumph from the field of slaughter. The fate of *Minorca* was announced here this morning, by a flag of truce from the *Orange-Grove*, with the intelligence of that fortress having surrendered to His Catholic Majesty's forces, and that the *feu de joye*, fired on the 23d of February, was in celebration of the conquest. It is not improbable but the enemy entertain lively notions of this place, and imagine that this piece of information may tend to depress our spirits, and facilitate a speedy surrender.

We kept up a very hot fire all the afternoon, and fet the enemy's works in a blaze, which

they extinguished shortly afterwards.

This morning our batteries directed their fire upon the enemy's advanced works on the ifthmus, when a heavy and inceffant cannonade was spiritedly maintained between the enemy and garrison, till nine o'clock, during which time we had the fortune to set their works on fire again. The foe manifested a valour, and in an intrepid manner jumped upon the glacis, pouring baskets of sand upon the flames, when, after much difficulty and danger, they got the sire extenguished.

Wind E.

Mar. failed to the westward with dispatches. The 4th. enemy keep advancing their approaches to. wards the garrison. The cannonade but slack these two days.

from Algiers, with sheep and wine, the former

fells at an exorbitant price.

A frigate from the eastward arrived this morning at Algaziras.—Several vessels at Orange Grove, are discharging ordnance stores, camp equipage, &c.—The reduction of the Island of Minorca, apparently has put the enemy in high spirits, as appearances in their camp, bespeak preparations for a reinforcement of troops. The enemy have redoubled the cannonade upon the garrison, and the advanced works are considerably lengthened: the next turn of the last branch will bring the line nearly to the centre of the Gardens. Our fire must be very distressing to them, they being so near to the Rock;—the small shells are distributed in abundance on their parties.

oth. One of the Spanish frigates sailed to the eastward: and this afternoon, the wind having shifted, another stood to the westward. A xebec and a cutter having approached too near the Rock, was fired at by our Prams, and

obliged to bear away for Algaziras.

firing, by which Lieutenant Cuppage, of the Royal Artillery, was this day wounded: all quiet on the sea side.

oth. The enemy indicate fresh preparations for the ensuing storm, several parties being employed this morning in clearing ground for a reinforce. reinforcement of troops. A number of tents 1782 are already pitched. A xebec, which came Mar. near the garrison, had several rounds fired at 10th. her, which compelled her to sheer off. We discharged a number of carcasses upon the enemy's isthmus works, with an intent to burn them, but did not meet with the completion of our wishes. The gun-boats cover the face of the Bay, and lay upon their oars. Parties continue employed in pitching tents, and clearing ground in the Spanish camp.

The enemy work most assiduously, and have 16th. raised a very high and well-planned breastwork, supposed by our engineers and artillerists to be intended for a mortar-battery.

This day arrived at Algaziras a frigate from

the westward, but no salute was given.

The enemy's fire these three days has been particularly spirited, by which we had some few wounded, among whom is Lieutenant White, of the 56th regiment. Our batteries are now bravely playing upon the foe.

Wind S. Two frigates having come within 17th. the reach of our prams, anchored off the New-Mole; they began a well-directed and furious fire upon them. One of the frigates, it was

observed, received several shot.

Our sishing-boats were drove out of the Bay 18th. this morning by a xebec, who kept a gentle sail, until, by her repeated sirings, she made them all retreat to the shore. The inhumanity of this act is better to be conceived than expressed. The Spaniards are forwarding their works, and discharging their ordnance upon us.

The

in

m

G

Ve

T

tic

br

ec

 B_{i}

he

th

ou

ro

is

in

T

qu

M

up

fre

di

ne

pa

til

m

of

me

ap.

Mar. Landport to be pulled down, and the commu19th. nication to that post will be through the
fallyport in the ditch,* where there is to be a
temporary stage made, for the purpose of de,
tachments passing and repassing from the covered-way, and out-guards. Also one of the
slopes, by which the guards and centinels now
ascend to their posts, is to be levelled. An encampment was began this morning on the west
of the Orange Grove. We expect the siege will
quickly come to an issue, from the preparations making by the foe.

We observed this morning, that the enemy had begun an encampment for cavalry, in the rear of the grand magazine, west of Orange-

Grove.

22d. Last night, about eleven o'clock, a mill on Windmill-hill, constructed for the purpose of grinding wheat sent over from Britain, by some means took sire, and was consumed. The enemy are very busy with some shipping, which is imagined are intended for fire-floats.

124th. Wind W. Last night arrived the Vernon store-ship, with materials for gun-boats, what we have long wished for. The Success frigate escorted her to latitude 36, when she left her, and returned to England. The Success, on her passage took the Santa Catalina, a Spanish frigate, who afterwards was burnt on the appearance of the Cerberus and Apollo frigates (sufpecting them to be enemies) and four transports, that came in also during the night, having

* A door in a Baltion and Battery, for the purpose of making a fally, unexpectedly, on the besiegers.

ing on board the 97th regiment, as a reinforce- 1782 ment to the garrison.

Three very large ships, and four xebecs, arrived at Algaziras, imagined to be laden with

stores and provision.

This day our flag of truce carried to Orange 25th. Grove some officers and men, put on board the Vernon, belonging to the Santa Catalina frigate. The enemy continue their usual working parties. From ten o'clock last night, till daybreak this morning, a brifk fire was maintained with determined resolution, between forts Barbary, Phillippe, and the batteries on the heights of the hill. One shot from the enemy this day wounded four men-all in a dangerous way.

The enemy's ships and forts fired several 30th. rounds alternately. It is supposed the rejoicing is (on account of this being Passion-Saturday) in celebration of our Saviour's refurrection. The Spanish working parties have not done any

quantity of work to-day.

This morning the batteries at Willis's and 3 1st. Montague's Bastion, opened with martial rage upon the isthmus works. Wind N. W. a very fresh breeze. Shot and shells were inceffantly discharged, when one of the latter having penetrated into the fascines, immediately set that part in a flame, which continued burning until about thirty yards was confumed. flames spread in a rapid manner, and the enemy did all they could to prevent the progress of the fire, nor could they extinguish it by any means, but was under the necessity of cutting an opening, as the only remedy to fecure their approaches from being again deftroyed.

The

March out of their tents to view the spirited action, while only the slash of guns, and exploding shells were to be seen; the isthmus, and nor. thernmost part of the Rock being hid with the clouds of sinoke.

Sincerely your's.

ter

rac

is t

are and fati

exc ed enc

mil

for

any

ener

whi

gua

tena

ed h

guar

ces.

pect

all ra

fron

they

ry t

affai

Si

ly i

LETTER XXXI.

Who like the Cur barks at the croud that passes?"

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

Such and malignant foes, every ship, settee, or bark that appears, immediately a gun is discharged, and a cruizer sent out to interrogate, "From whence come ye, or where are you bound?"

A Swedish vessel was brought into Algaziras yesterday evening for not bringing to, upon a gun being fired from a double galley off the Point.

Arrived a vessel from *Portugal*, with ninety sheep during the course of the night.

This morning a foldier deferted from Landport guard, and received the fire of the mufquetry of all the centinels, but without effect. The Spanish working parties are diligently employed.

Laft

Last night a Spanish deserter came in, and 1782 reports, that the soldier which deserted yesterday was wounded by our fire, and died in the 2d. greatest agony, in the Mill Battery (or St Carles.) This forenoon a great many infantry tents was pitched east side of the Horse Barracks, and some squadrons of infantry marched in

The encampment west of the Orange Grove 9th. is taken possession of by troops; but they do not appear very numerous, or perhaps they are tired with their march over the mountains, and keep their tents as a relaxation from their satigue. The enemy cannonade the garrison excessively warm, three men and aboy wounded at Willis's by a rebound of a shot.—A new encampment is forming about a quarter of a mile from the Horse District—The tents are

for infantry, and appear quite new.

The encampment pitched yesterday is hourly increasing in the number of tents, but not
any considerable body of troops appear. The
enemy fired very hot this morning, and a shell
which fell in Landport Ditch, just as the new
guard came to relieve the old one, killed Lieutenant Whetham, of the 12th Regiment, wounded his servant who was on the right of the
guard, and blew the drummer's drum in pieces. He was an amiable officer, and well respected; the loss of him is much regretted by
all ranks in the garrison.

Six lug-fail boats arrived from the westward; from their form and construction we apprehend they are intended for landing of troops. Every thing now indicates a speedy and vigorous assault. Our enemies are seemingly prepared

Com

16th.

1781 for immediate battle, their isthmus works be.

April ing almost completed.

Wind W. Arrived a boat from Portugal with 11th. goats, fowls, &c. The Patron brings intelligence, that thips and floating-batteries are fit. ting up in the port of Cadiz, lined with cerk and oakum, whose strength are to turn a cannon-ball, and that when Duke de Crillon arrives with his conquering, valiant, and fuccessful troops, from the glorious expedition at Minor. ca, he is to take the command of the forces. and head the army in their attack upon this He fays, that from the accounts receiv. ed in Portugal, that the Spaniards are in high fpirits from the recent fuccess of the Duke at Minorca, that great expectation is placed on the valour of the troops under his command, and that on their arrival, the attack will commence.

Arrived a large cutter at Algaziras, from the 15th. The enemy have brought forward their approaches confiderably towards the garrifon. A general discharge of ordnance prevails.

> Wind S. W. Two large xebecs arrived this forenoon on the opposite side, and several small

fettees, all from the weltward.

The enemy's force now confifts of three frigates, four large xebecs, one cutter, one bombketch, at Algaziras; one large xebec, one cutter, one lugger, one bomb-ketch, at Orange Grove; one large xebec, one fmall ditto, one floop of war at Cabritta; fifteen gun-boats, eight mortar boats, ten or twelve fire-ships in the rivers, besides what shipping they have at Ceuta, and cruizing to the eastward.

Landport-bridge is taken down, and it is reported that both the flopes are to be levelled,

and

and

any

the

Gr

25 2

plo

tile

ing

hor

not

ed a

und

got

was

now

itan

got

be 1

fron

not

torn

exch

gun-

ing

Tara

fasci

that occa

days

Se

T

V

and only a timber ascent made, that in case of 1782 any emergence may be set on sire, to prevent April. the enemy's entrance into the ditch under the Grand Battery.

Our working-parties are employed in erecting splinter proofs upon the batteries on the hill, as a cover from the bomb-shells when they explode in the air, which the Spaniards have prac-

tised of late.

Wind N. W. This morning, upon a ship being discovered by the enemy in the Ossing, they
hoisted a signal on the tower at Cabritta, which
not being answered, a xebec and sloop, stationed at the Point, slipped out, and bore down
under a pressure of sail.—The xebec having
got a-head, sired a broadside at her, which
was directly returned by the ship; the sloop
now came up, and sired a few guns, notwithstanding which, she continued her course, and
got safe in, without any loss. She proves to
be the Antigallican store-ship, in eight days
from Falmouth. The enemy, apparently, are
not so attentively employed on the isthmus as
formerly.

The regiments in the town and fouthward 21st.

exchanged quarters this forenoon.

Very little work done by the enemy.—The gun-boats brought over by the Vernon, are geting in great forwardness in the New-Mole Tard.

Several parties employed daily in bringing 22d. fascines into the Spanish camp. We suppose that the want of these materials has been the occasion of their ceasing from work these three days. Forts Barbary and Phillippe, the Black-M Battery

1782 Battery and lines, fired this afternoon minute

April guns, with shot, upon the garrison.

24th. This forenoon an experimental trial was made with one of the gun-boats, mounted with an eighteen pounder. The first and second shot fired horizontally recouched three or four times; the third had a degree of elevation, and went a distance in the bay. The Naval Commander promises great success from them when the twelve is finished. All hands busy at work upon them.

25th. This morning early a deferter from the Volunteers of Argon came in, and confirms a former account of ships being preparing for the purpose of attacking this garrison, lined with cork and junk to prevent the penetration of our shot. A few working parties again appear on the isthmus, but their labours

are executed under cover.

7th. This day one of our long boats from Ragged Staff to the New Mole with iron, fprung a leak, and went to the bottom, unfortunately a

man and a boy were drowned.

rigged, and a schooner, appeared in the Gut, with their heads standing to the east.—The Spanish towers made a signal of an enemy being at hand, upon which two xebecs, and eight gun-boats went out in order to secure them, but were unexpectedly disappointed, they proving to belong to the French. The rapidity of the current, and the wind having shifted to the N. W. the xebecs and gun-boats drove to the eastward.

30th. The enemy's batteries appear to be nearly finished; for notwithstanding we only now

and

and

the

do

me

pla

ilai

mo

ber

gal

ma

inf

tha

tio

m

1116

tio

and then discharge a few rounds of shot and 1782 shells, they have not taken the opportunity of April doing any work. In the Spanish camp, a numerous army are feen-the whole Common at the foot of Santa Roque, is become a town and place of habitation, where a grand display of flaughtering instruments is exhibited, and the most renowned engineers, experienced artillerifts, and approved foldiers and feamen, are bent upon our extirpation from this heartgalling Rock. That their views and intentions may be frustrated, is the fincere and hearty wish of

Your affectionate Brother.

LETTER XXXII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

EVERY opportunity that offers of writing May 3 to you, I readily embrace, and find an infinite fatisfaction in the employ, conscious that your bosom feels for my absence and situation; I should consider myself unpardonable in any omission.

The enemy continue the fiege, and are geting in forwardness the most studious preparations for an attack. It is beyond dispute that the contention will shortly be finally adjusted.

Last night, Wind E. sailed the Cerberus and 8th. Apollo frigates, St. Ann, Vernon, Mercury, and Antigallican store-ships; the Betsey, Thompson, Loyal Briton, and Valiant transports, at which M 2 time

1782 time two Spanish frigates and three xebecs were May 8. cruizing in the Gut. They had not been long under fail, when rockets were thrown up at Algaziras, and answered at Cabritta.—About an hour after a cannonading was heard in the Gut, and continued for some time tolerably brisk; and this morning we had the mortification to view the enemy returning with the three last named transports, being the only defenceless vessels that failed from hence. fails were very much torn, and it is supposed the enemy alone directed their fire upon them, not liking to attack the store-ships; they have a formidable appearance in the night. victorious they entered the Bay in triumph, and conducted their prizes (manned only with about twenty-one men) to the port of Algaziras, there to recount the dangers of the battle, and to regale themselves with the spoil.

9th. Wind W.S. W. This forenoon arrived from the westward one line of battle ship, convoying eight large store-ships or Indiamen. From the appearance of their rigging and sides, which is dry and shabby, and having but a few hands on board, we cannot imagine from what part they have arrived, or what occasion brought them in here. All hands bufy about the Spa-

nish camp.

oth. Wind S. E. Arrived a Portuguese settee from Tetuan, with about 30,000 oranges, and a few pipes of oil. She was cleared out for Cadiz, but smuggled herself in here, where they will find a good market for their cargo.—Oranges are sold for a rial each, about sourpence three-farthings sterling.

The

Wa

tho

riv

Or

the

ed

ing

the

ma

iee

def

2 I

Sug

pro

the

to 1

wa

upo

do

itor

eni

rial

bee

are

The

faile

be (

The eight large ships that arrived over the 1782 way the 9th instant, are hauled close to the May shore, and are unrigging, and those that arrived the 24th March have proceeded to the Orange Grove. It is currently reported that they are lined with cork, and are to be converted into batteries, but most people think that they are more sit for sire-wood, than attacking a fortress.

The store-ships at Algaziras are quite unriged, and a great many hands employed upon them clearing their dceks. The land fire is maintained with spirit, but very little work seemingly going forward on the isthmus.

Last night three soldiers, in attempting to 20th. desert from the heights of the Rock, fell from a precipice, and were found dead under the Sugar-Loaf, lying near each other. They had procured a rope, and fastened it to a cleft of the Rock, but it was not of a sussicient length to reach the bottom.

Arrived a xebec and a galley from the west-22d. ward at Algaziras. The enemy are employed upon two of the store-ships, cutting their sides down.

The enemy continue working on the two 25th. store-ships at Algaziras, and appear to be thickening with pieces of timber and other materials, their larboard sides. Several ports have been already cut: from this it is evident they are intended for floating batteries. Wind E. The other store-ships that lay at Orange Grove sailed from thence to the westward, having discharged their lading, which is supposed to be ordnance stores.

Arrived

May supply from Leghorn, having on board twelve Corsicans, including one officer, who have voluntarily come to offer their service in the defence of this place. They mention that several more are preparing to embark on the same

expedition.

Arrived the John Tartan, Captain M'Killister, from Leghorn, with a supply of wine and oil. She brings intelligence, that we may be affured of a vigorous attack, as soon as the Spanish ships are ready, which will be made so strong, and of such a nature, that they will neither burn nor batter.

The Spanish hospital last night took fire,

and is entirely confumed.

27th. Wind S. É. Yesterday evening near one hundred sail of transports, and a bomb-ketch, arrived and anchored between Algaziras and Orange Grove, and this morning we perceived they were very sull of men, which are supposed to be tracers

posed to be troops.

28th. A considerable body of troops were landed from the transports this afternoon, and marched into the *Spanish* camp. The enemy had hauled two transports in, and have began unrigging them. The two large ships that the enemy have been working at, have each of them fourteen or sisteen port-holes cut in their larboard sides.

A flag of truce was received from Spain, but her message is mere conjecture with the public. Some say, she has brought a demand from the Spanish General, for the surrendering of the fortress; but this, I am consident, never will be be done, while we have an ounce of bread, 1782 and a round of ammunition.

May.

An English Tartan was taken to the eastward 30th and towed by the enemy into Algaziras, with her colours reversed. It is afferted that this vessel is the one that Patron Pratt sailed from

this port to Algiers for supplies.

Our twelve gun-boats in New-Mole-yard are nearly finished; several are already in the water, and lye very snug. We are very anxious to make trial of them with the enemy. A boat went out this day with a flag of truce into the Bay, with the Governor's answer to theirs, received the 28th instant.

The ships at Algaziras are getting pretty forward; a number of hands are employed upon them, but most of the garrison are of opinion, from their construction, that they will be found of very little use when they attack our walls, as they never will be able to tow them near enough to do any material execution, for should they daringly come on, their boats will be inevitably cut off by the grape shot from the garrison.

We shall have pretty sport soon. I hope to survive to send you an account of the particulars, wherein a victorious repulse, I trust, will be found; and probably before you receive this letter, the battle will have taken place, and

the contest be decided.

With a heart glowing with zeal for the honour of *Britain* and her Dependencies, permit me to conclude, with the most brotherly love and esteem,

Sincerely your's.

LETTER

LETTER XXXIII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

June 1. THE enemy labour conftantly at equipping June 1. The store-ships for service; from the lights observed at Algaziras last night, we imagine they were busy at work;—the masts of most of them are taken out.

This morning died here, Brigadier-General

Stanton, of the 97th regiment.

3d. Wind E. This day a convoy of near fifty fail of different fizes, arrived from the eastward at Algaziras, with stores and provision for the use of their army and navy. The cannonade continues pretty brisk on both sides, but we have only a few wounded.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The Royal Standard to be hoisted to-morrow— The Governor desires to meet all the officers not on duty, on their respective parades, at guard-mounting to-morrow, to congratulate with them on the anniversary of his majesty's birth-day.

Such ordnance to be fired at the enemy's works, as shall be ordered by the Commanding Officer of the

Royal Artillery, beginning at one o'clock.

on the flag-staff in town, and on board the Brilliant in New Mole. At one o'clock the northernmost

gu to ed

no of

The zire gen

wo tur (

1

ploy then of t

fuccion dent off, and fire f

worl

wre

Or iJuea of shot and shells upon the enemy's forts and June. works, in honour of his majesty's birth-day. The shipping in the New Mole, and our twelve gun-boats arranged in a line from the Tanks to the pier of the New Mole Head, also performed a salute, and gave three cheers. The enemy maintained a brisk fire the whole day. The sloating batteries (or cork ships) at Algaziras, are forwarding with all possible diligence.

A hot fire from the land batteries, upon our 6th. works and parties, which is as spiritedly re-

turned from our heights.

Captain Wideburg, of Reden's regiment of

Hanoverians, was wounded this day.

The Spaniards have a great many hands employed upon feven ships at Algaziras; most of them have ports cut in their sides, but none

of them appear to be finished.

This forenoon our Artillery had some red 7th. hot shot, experimental practice, at the vessel wrecked off Prince Orange's battery, which succeeded pretty well. An unfortunate accident happened by a gun unexpectingly going off, which killed the gunner in the embrazure, and wounded three other men. A constant fire from the Rock Gun upon the enemy's works on the isthmus.

GARRISON ORDERS.

One quarter and half of a pint of vinegar to be ifued to every ration, till further orders.

The

June. opinion, that this will be a great preventative

in the fad effects of the fcurvy.

The men employed upon the seven floating batteries, work with the greatest assiduity, but as yet we cannot form any judgment of their

utility or construction.

Early this morning the Spanish gun and mortar-boats made an excursion in the Bay, and discharged their ordnance upon the garrison: they fired very warm for an hour and three quarters, during which time we had several men wounded. A soldier is missing, supposed to have deserted.

11th. This forenoon, a thirteen-inch shell, fired from the enemy's works, fell upon a magazine at Princess Ann's battery, where there were many men at work and on duty; it forced its way through the splinter-proof which covered the magazine door, burst it open, and in the explosion blew up the magazine. We had fifteen men killed, and twenty-one wounded. Scarce had the explosion taken place, when the enemy began a very brifk cannonade and bombardment from every battery on the ilthmus and lines, particularly directed to the spot where the unfortunate accident happened.— The Royal Artillery felt for the loss, and in retaliation gave the foe most heavy and welldirected discharges of shot and shells, which they met with aftonishing bravery.

The man missing the 10th instant, was taken this day at the back of the Rock, by a party of men, and sent on board the *Provost* ship, 1 place of confinement, and answers the pur-

pose of a garrison gaol.

The

The enemy labour with the utmost diligence 1782 on their floating batteries; their whole atten- June. tion feems to be engaged in their equipment. 13th. It is conjectured that in five or fix weeks they will be completed, and ready for action. they are not fuccefsful when they attack our walls, the enemy will be obliged to abandon them to our cannonade, as from their apparent heaviness, it cannot be supposed practica-

ble to get them from their anchorage.

d

d

e

ts

1e

n.

IS

ot

ty

r.

This day a foldier deferted from Landfort 14th. guard; the fentinels fired at him, but he made his escape without receiving any hurt from the musquetry.—Wind E. A French frigate convoying a number of finall craft, arrived at Algaziras from the eastward with troops on board. About two o'clock this afternoon, a Spanish xebec was becalmed near the garrison. The fouthward batteries and prams, at New-Mole Head, fired upon her, affilted by Captain Curtis, and our twelve gun-boats. The xebec perceiving her fituation to be growing very desperate, fired a gun to windward as a signal for affiltance, while Curtis's boats kept a fire upon her head. The enemy fent feveral small cruizers to her relief, when unluckily a breeze sprang up from the east, and two Spanish gunboats towed her out of the reach of our guns. Had it continued a calm much longer, the must have been under the necessity of striking. She received several shot from the garrison guns.

The xebec we fired at yesterday, is observed 15th. to be upon her keel, no doubt repairing the damage she received.

Wind E.

18th.

A fettee from the eastward was Wind E. June. carried by a Spanish cruizer into Algaziras, un-17th. der English colours; in all probability she was laden with cattle for the garrison, which is much wanted, and fells at a great price:-beef four shillings and ten-pence halfpenny per pound, and mutton five shillings and fixpence per pound. You may judge the scarcity and dearness, when I inform you that a bullock intended to be flaughtered, is purchased every pound before killed, except the liver, which fells at one shilling and sixpence per pound, and for which a crowd of women and children will be fighting for the purchase at the flaughter-house door. A bullock's head, without a tongue, has been fold for feven dollars and a half, which is according to the exchange of money, one pound three shillings and fourpence halfpenny, and the tongue for eight shillings and three half-pence.

Yesterday evening, wind W. one Spanish ship of the line, three large store-ships, and eight other vessels arrived at Algaziras, from the westward. It is the general opinion of the garrison, that the three large ships are for the purpose of making sloating-batteries, to cooperate with those now preparing at Algaziras, as they are hauled in under the land.

This afternoon, the wind having shifted to S. E. three frigates, and between seventy and eighty transports under French colours, with troops on board, arrived from the eastward, and anchored at Algaziras. We conjecture they have brought a reinforcement of about six thousand men. Our prams fired several state at four of the enemy's gun-boats that

fail of

voy,

Th

have alread A vertice was of bufy and of the life in t

with
flant
that
tertai
which
dition
pregn

The and a army Crillio enemy men.

Th

in en

rifon, ing p enemy teries three water

fail of the headmost, when they sheered off. June.
Three frigates, with several sail under con- 19th.

voy, passed to the westward-could not discern

to what nation they belong.

The troops arrived in the French transports 20th. have begun disembarking; several gun-boats already landed at the pier of the Orange Grove. A vessel with a Spanish ensign above the English, was carried into Algaziras. The enemy are busy in unrigging the three last store-ships, and cutting down their sides. The fire from the land side is continued with unabating spirit.

A boat came over last night from Algaziras, 21st.

with two men taken in the fettee the 17th inflant; they cut the boat adrift. They report that the Spaniards were in high spirits, and entertain great expectation from ten junk ships which are getting ready with all possible expedition, whose strength and form will be impregnable, both against shot and shells. We shall of course find stubborn and dissicult work

in engaging them.

The French troops finished landing this day, and are encamped on the left of the Spanish army: they are commanded by the Duke de Crillion. From the best account arrived, the enemy's land forces amount to thirty thousand

This day the enemy ceased siring on the garrison, which is very surprising, as our working parties are numerous on the hill. The enemy are very busy on their ten floating batteries; they have cut down the sides of the three last ships arrived, almost level with the water. June. thing on the isthmus wears a different appear.

24th. ance. It is imagined that Duke de Crillion succeeds General Alvarez in command, and that a new arrangement of operations has taken place. We fire very negligently on the enemy, and that mostly in the night. The floating batteries have a number of hands at work upon them, but we cannot make out what they are doing.

and then a shot for diversion, which sometimes we return, and sometimes not. Our Governor has taken this opportunity of repairing and strengthening the works and batteries. Several strong working parties employ.

ed to the northward.

batteries are forwarding with incredible empedition. The enemy have begun forming fomething over the deck of one of them, we suppose for a splinter-proof—time will manifelt the use of it.

I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately Yours.

LETTER

in an

iome

made

well

as it

our v

This

into

with

ftruc

to an

the c

much the c

defer rifon

labou they

The days the lift from So

this forw

Siz

LETTER XXXIV.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE enemy observe great silence on the 1782 isthmus, but an unusual activity appears July 1. in and about their stores and grand magazine: some are of opinion that the attack will be made sudden and in the night time. We are well satisfied with the ceasing of the cannonade, as it affords us the opportunity of repairing our very-much shattered and damaged works. This morning we sired six shells from Willis's into the Spanish lines, which they answered with one shot.

Six battalions in the Spanish encampment, firuck their tents this morning, and removed

to another part of the camp.

All bufy at Algaziras. The construction of the cover of one of the floating batteries is much resembling the roof of a house, but at the distance they now are, cannot hazard a description. The general opinion of the garrison is, that the enemy will experience great labour and dissiculty to bring them on, as they must be very heavy from the quantity of timber which compose their bulk.

The regiments in the garrifon for feveral days past, have been practising siring ball from the line-wall, at a target placed a small distance

from the Rock, in the fea.

Some few shot and shells from the enemy this day. The floating batteries are in great forwardness.

3d.

July. have roofed a fecond, and began a third; fo 6th. that we imagine they will all be finished in the fame manner.

7th.

Early this morning a brig from Wind W. the westward was discovered in the Offing, the Spanish towers hung out the fignal of an ene. my, when a xebec and four gun-boats pushed out: the boats foon came up with her and be. gan a fire, which she returned, and beat them off: the xebec then bore down and boarded her in a manful manner; and shortly after they hoisted the Spanish colours above the Eng. list: she was conducted under this escort in triumph to Algaziras. We feel a sensible un. easiness in not having a force sufficient to protect any veffel standing for the Bay. It must be very distressing, after a vessel has escaped croffing the fea, to be taken in fight of their destined port, and sometimes almost within reach of the garrison guns.

This afternoon arrived from the westward, and anchored at *Cabritta*, a frigate and a xebec. We expect some other vessel is in fight

of the coast.

oth. The enemy continue working on the cork fhips, roofing them over, which makes them have a very odd appearance. A ferjeant is mif-

fing supposed to have deserted.

of the Prams, went in a boat to the enemy. We fired at them, but too late to prevent their escape. The serjeant missing on the 10th, was found at the back of the rock, half way down, but for want of a rope could not get any further.

This

1

Lin

on

ing

that

fron

fon

he i

and.

no c

he f

cam

roug

Mad

ener

batte

ing a

the 1

ouric rival

W

eastw to w

ing (

we co

Th

yards

The !

truit

begun

the d

and t

that

T

This morning a foldier deferted from Queen's 1782 Lines Guard. A Prophet is taken up, and fent July on board the Provost ship. Like Jonah warn-13th. ing the city of Nineveh, so he publicly avowed that within six weeks, six days, and six hours, from last Saturday at twelve o'clock, the garrison would be taken, and the Governor killed: he is a soldier belonging to the 73d regiment, and, at the expiration of the time, there is no doubt but he will suffer for his folly.

This morning came in a deferter from Spain: 14th. he says that there are forty-four battalions in camp; that Duke de Crillion has made a thorough survey of all the works, and is gone to Madrid to report to his Catholic Majesty. The enemy have not completed any of the floating batteries—They have begun this morning forming a boom across the harbour at Algaziras, for the protection of their shipping—We flatter ourselves that they are apprehensive of the arrival of our fleet.

Wind W. The French convoy failed to the 16th. eastward, and the men of war are in readiness to weigh. The boom at Algaziras is lengthening considerably. From these circumstances, we conjecture that we shall shortly find relief.

The floating batteries come on apace.

N

The boom is lengthened about two thousand 17th. yards, and covers all the floating batteries. The Spanish cruizers are very alert, and neither trust to colours or signals. The enemy have begun a battery near Tarifa (from the account the deserter gives that came in on the 14th) and that six hundred men were detached for that purpose.

Wind E.

July eastward at Algaziras; they appear to be new, 18th. and of the construction of their gun-boats. The enemy keep working day and night at the floating batteries; the roof of one is quite finished, and is much like the top of a house, with a gradual ascent from head and stern.

of the town, and all the cruizers are on the infide; the bomb ketch which lay at the Orange Grove, weighed anchor, and has taken her ftation at the fame place. The old pastime of shot and shells cannot be forgot, we keep playing away manfully. A failor who happened to be in town when a shell burst over his head, exclaimed (with the usual oath for which they are so much distinguished) "D-n—, but the Spaniards have got a battery in the air."

tl.

no

cl

111

ba

C01

39

 $R\epsilon$

lefi

beg

fire

che

rig

fir

en

21st. All hands bufy at work on the opposite shore; three of the floating batteries are roofed over. The regiments exchanged quarters this

day.

23d. Wind W. A large xebec arrived and anchored at Algaziras. The enemy have nearly roofed another of the floating batteries, and the three last that were taken in hand, are in great forwardness.

on the 11th, was executed for the fame, and died with a penitence becoming his unhappy

fituation.

25th. Wind strong E. Arrived the St. Philip's-Castle and General Murray sloop of war, from Leghorn; they have brought provision for the garrison, with sive officers and seventy-sive Corsicans: they bring the agreeable intelligence of Admiral Rodney having defeated the French, 1782 and taken the Ville de Paris of 110 guns, with July. four other line of battle ships. Our Governor 25th. ordered a salvo from the batteries, and a feu de joye to be sired, which you will perceive by the

GARRISON ORDERS.

Parole Rodney. A feu de joye to be fired this day to celebrate the victory gained by his majesty's fleet under the command of Sir George Rodney, over the French fleet in the West-Indies. All the ordnance from the Rock gun to Princess Carolina's inclusive, to be fired at one o'clock, beginning at the Rock gun shotted. At six in the evening the regiments will take post on the line wall, in the follow-

ing order, drawn up two deep. The 72d regiment right to the Prince Hesse's battery; 12th join the left of 72d; the two town companies of Artillery on the King's bastion; the 30th on the left of the 12th; Lieutenant-General Reden's left of 39th; Major-General La Mott's left of Reden's; 73d right at Ragged-staff; 56th on the left of 73d; the three South Companies of Royal Artillery in the New-Mole fort .- Two rockets will be thrown up on the right, as a signal to begin the first round; two from the left, when the fire returns from thence for the second round; and two more from the right for the third round. Three cheers when the firing is finished, to begin on the right, and pass along in the same manner as the firing did.

e

d

is

n-

lv

nd

in

ck

nd

py

b's-

om the

ive

nce

of

The shipping and gun-boats fired and cheer ed at one o'clock; the hill batteries saluted the enemy's works with ball, and the regiments

N 2 performed

1782 performed in the evening a running fire of July three rounds, which had a pleafing effect.

and dispirit our foes, who, vaunting of their power, bluster, threaten, and claim victory as their own. Their impregnable floating batteries will shortly be tried, and though the Spanish gazettes boast of unborn atchievements, yet there is not the least doubt but our red hot pills will effectually answer our purpose. They must be of an amazing construction if blazing twenty-four and thirty-two pounders will not burn them.

This being St. James's Day, the enemy's ships were dressed and saluted three times.—
The enemy roofed over another floating bat.

tery.

26th.

Wind W. Arrived a small settee from Portugal with wine and fruit. She has brought a confirmation of the glorious defeat of the French. The enemy endeavoured to take her,

but were too late in getting out.

another of them is roofed over. The enemy devote their whole time and study to get them sinished; they work day and night. On our part, being convinced they are intended to attack the place, we as anxiously wish for their speedy equipment to give the desive stroke.—
It will be hot and stubborn work, if they are of the strength reported, namely, bomb-proof, that will resist a shell which weighs two hundred before it is dischagred from the mortar, and when it descends, is supposed to fall thirty ton weight.

Yours, &c.

nı

in ba

lio

We

ha

ad

eve

as a

are

Ma

ano

M

An

Ch

Dr for

LETTER XXXV.

Their blooming hopes foar high in this delusion.
To gain possession of this envied place,
And on the battlements Spain's ensigns spread.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1-

a

è

n m

ır

it-

11

re

of,

n-

ar, ty THE foe, ere long, will make their pro- 1782.

mifed storm—their batteries are com- Aug. 4.

pleated, and their junk-ships almost ready. A
numerous army encamped, and boats for landing their troops are in the rivers. It is probable that this month will be the grand decision of the combat, and we heartily wish it, as
we are almost worn out with constant toils,
harrassing expectations, and a severe cannonade, which the enemy began again yesterday
evening.

The enemy have brought several sire ships out of the rivers; the floating batteries have a very ugly and odd appearance: we think they were mounting ordnance in one to-day, as a great number of boats were along side.

The Corficans that arrived here from Leghorn,

are formed into a company, viz.

Signor Antonio Leonettie, Captain; Phillippo Massaraia, Captain Lieutenant; Georgio Alexandria Michili, First Lieutenant; Leonardo Monti, Adjutant, with the rank of Lieutenant; Angelo Raffaelli, second Lieutenant; Lugi Cotie, Chaplain; four Serjeants, four Corporals, two Drummers, and 68 private men:—total eightyfour.

A deserter

tl

ec

U

01

m

be

in

th

tre

ai

ho th

flo

ha

311

att

arı

tec

tu:

ad

my

ba

All

0r

va

W

A deferter from the enemy came in, and Aug. fays that the floating batteries are almost ready, and that one has been tried with ball, and an-7th.

fwers their expectation.

8th. Wind W. Arrived two veffels under Im. perial colours, from the westward at Algaziras, and the line of battle ship sailed from that place to the Orange Grove, supposed to take in The floating batteries are powder and stores. The enemy fire with fpirit very near finished. from the land fide.

Wind E. This day arrived a French twen. 11th. ty gun ship, on the opposite side. Several par. ties are employed on the strand, beyond the Spanish lines, we suppose for the purpose of erecting a battery, they being apprehensive of a visit in that part, whenever our fleet arrives.

> The ship that came in yesterday, has remov. ed to the Orange Grove, probably to discharge her cargo. The enemy keep labouring at their junk ships, and have taken the masts out of one of them, but most people are of opinion they never will be able to bring them over

without fails.

The enemy have put finaller masts into the ship that they dismasted yesterday, and are very bufy rigging her-From this it is evident they mean to fail to their anchorage. From what opinion we can at prefent form, we imagine from their closeness and wanting air, that they will find an inconvenience in working their guns with briskness.

Sailed the Eliza brig, for Leg-Wind W. 13th. The veffels arrived under Imperial colours, failed to the Orange Grove. The enemy are very bufy in rigging two of the floating Arrived

batteries.

Arrived a frigate, under French colours from 1782 the westward at Algariras-Four gun boats fir- Aug. ed at her, apprehending she was an enemy, 14th.

until she displayed her colours.

The enemy have taken out the masts of four of the batteries, and replaced them with others much smaller, the two that were rigging have bent their fails—We imagine they will shortly

all of them be ready.

During the course of last night, the enemy 16th. crected a work composed of fand bags, extending obliquely from the eaftern shore, towards the centre of the Spanish lines. It is computed from its length and height, and having fo fhort a space of time to complete it in (only about fix hours darkness) that there was not less than ten thousand men employed in the execution of it.—At prefent it is masked, but there is not the least doubt but the enemy intend it for a battery.

The enemy have hauled out one of their 17th. floating batteries being perfectly finished; she has a very awkward and furprising appearance, and lies low in the water:-they are very attentive in equipping the others. Wind W. arrived a cutter from the westward, and faluted the Admiral with eleven guns, which he returned with three. A tolerable brisk cannon-

ade from the enemy's forts and lines.

About eleven o'clock this forenoon the ene- 18th. my made a grand display in the bay—seven barges with crimion awnings proceeded from Algaziras, attended by twelvegun boats to the Orange Grove—In half an hour after their arrival, they put off in the same order, upon which the shipping immediately dressed, and

the

1782 the Admiral gave a falute of twenty-one guns Aug. —the other shipping also fired, and the gun 18th, boats each of them discharged their ordnance

18th. boats each of them discharged their ordnance. A frigate got under weigh from Algaziras, and under a gentle fail went to meet the barges, which when she had come half way she gave a falute of twenty-one guns, the gun boats fired alternately, until the barges got to Algaziras, when another royal falute was given. The barges then went on board the junk ship haul. ed out yesterday, and a discharge of cannon continued while the vilitors remained on board -Having gratified their curiofity in the exa. mination of the floating battery, they went on board the Admiral's ship to dine, and regale themselves, and drank a hearty bumper in fuccess to their undertaking, where they continued till fix o'clock in the evening, when, in the same procession they came in, they returned to the pier at the Orange Grove, and on their landing, another falute was given.-Some are of opinion that this rejoicing is occafioned by the arrival of a Prince of the Blood, and others that it is the Admiral who is to command the floating batteries.

Orange Grove came over, and rowed along pretty near our line wall, until she came opposite Ragged-staff, when one of our boats went out with Captain Valloton, of the 56th regiment (chief Aid-de-camp to the Governor) and spoke to her, and soon afterwards returned.—The boat kept very close in with the shore, making a survey of the works, when the Repulse (an advanced gun boat) fired a shot as a caution for her to keep her proper distance.—Soon af-

ter

fi

d

C

ti

0

p

to

t

2

e

 \boldsymbol{E}

re

er

th

th

CC

er

ſh

to

fi

G

ter Captain Valloton returned to the flag of 1782 truce, which brought a handsome present of Aug. fruit and game for the Governor, from Count 19th. de Artois, whose arrival in the Spanish camp occasioned yesterday's rejoicing.—The floating batteries are rigging with the utmost expedition. The day of trial is very near at hand, I hope we shall acquit ourselves in the defence of

this place with honour and fuccefs.

This morning our Governor sent out a flag of truce to the enemy, with a return for the present received yesterday. I am considently told, it consisted of a cask of beef, pork, and butter, a cheese, a puncheon of rum, a sheep and a goat, some poultry, and a quantity of potatoes, "with the General's compliments to the Count, thanking him for his kindness, and assuring him that he did not want any refreshments." This was policy to make the enemy believe that our situation was not so deplorable as they imagined.

Wind E. This morning we observed the 21st. Eliza brig that sailed from hence on the 13th, returning from the eastward under a Spanish ensign, and also thirteen large boats which we imagine are for the purpose of landing troops; from their size it is not improbable but each of them may contain sive hundred men.—Six of the floating batteries are almost rigged—two

completely equipped for battle.

This forenoon our batteries poured upon the 22d. enemy's works a confiderable discharge of shot, shells, and carcasses, and had the satisfaction to set the enemy's advanced is shown work on sire, which burnt most furiously for an hour or better. A brisk fire was maintained on both sides

Aug. the enemy were feveral times drove off their works, and forced to abandon a battery on the left of St. Carlos, termed the Mahon battery. We fired from the garrifon in the space of an hour, near fourteen hundred rounds—the cannonade continued furious till nine o'clock, when the enemy rather slackened their fire. We had only three men wounded, but judge what loss the foe must have sustained, as they had a body of near two thousand men employed, in endeavouring to extinguish the fire.

battery, and are rigging those that are already roofed; one of them appears to have about twenty-six ports on one side. Our batteries keep playing away upon the isthmus, and we have been using every means to sire the ene-

my's works again, but all ineffectually.

of the fand-bag work erected on the 16th inftant, confifts of four batteries of fixteen guns each. The enemy are bufy in nailing down their platforms, and getting all things in readiness to mount the ordnance—They will be able to fcour our lines, and advanced posts from this work; they are forming bomb batteries in the rear of the cannon of their advanced batteries; so resolutely determined are they upon the capture of the old Rock.

fea-fide—in the morning at fun-rife, the ships dressed and fired, as did also the island near Algaziras—this was repeated again at noon, and at the going down of the sun. The sloating batteries are almost ready.

The

n

h

ju

e

b

C

fi

tl

ba

n

m

th

th

W

The St. Philip's Castle, and the ordnance 1782 store shipping that lay in Rosia Bay, hauled in Aug. this morning to the New Mole. The bay on 25th. our side is quite clear, as all our ships are now within the boom. From the circumstances of the siege, it is whispered that the seamen are to be landed, and incorporated into a brigade, to act as soldiers within the walls, under the command of Captain Curtis as Colonel. The enemy have eight of their sloating batteries roofed—the day of battle is nigh at hand.

This morning a deferter came in from Spain, 27th. and brings advice, that the enemy have every preparation made on the land-fide for the affault, and that they are only waiting for the junk ships, when they mean to attack us in every quarter—He also says that eight line of battle ships are expected from Cadiz, to act in conjunction with the flotantees. He was taken prisoner at Minorca, by Duke de Crillion, and inlisted into a French regiment, but not liking to fight against his king and country, embraced the first opportunity of making his escape.

Wind W. Arrived at Algaziras, fix line of 28th. battle ships, two xebecs and a cutter. The ninth floating battery is almost roofed, but is much smaller than the others.

The deferter that came in yesterday, says, that on the night of the 16th, he was among the number that helped to erect the sand bag work, and from the accounts in the Spanish camp, there was about eleven thousand men employed to effect it, that had we fired towards the eastern shore, the greatest part must have been cut off.

The

Aug. shipping in New Mole are anded, and employ. 29th. ed in bringing their stores on shore. The seamen are in good spirits, and swear bitterly against the Dons.—This little reinforcement will be of great service to us. The enemy fire brisk on the land side.

GARRISON ORDERS.

30th. The officers and crews of his majesty's ships being landed, are to be encamped at Europa, and to form the Marine Brigade. Captain Curtis commanding his majesty's ships in the Mediterranean is appointed to serve as Brigadier General.

You would finile to view the tars handling their firelocks, and marching full accoutred; the boatswain's pipe—all hands aloft,—brace the yards,—tacks and sheets, &c. are no longer heard,—the glittering beauties of the parade engage the attention, while whistling winds, and roaring billows are forgotten. Thus military equipped, they long for battle, to perform their evolutions and manœuvres, which on a parade might excite laughter, but amidst blazing cannon, and clouds of smoke, every awkward appearance will be hid—If they prime and load expeditiously, it is all that will be required, nor will they need to rest, shoulder, or poise.

Yours &c.

P. S. Inclosed are the copies of two letters, said to be written by the Duke de Crillion, and his Excellency General Eliott, on the 19th and 20th instant.

Camp of Buenavista, August 19, 1782.

SIR,

TTIS Royal Highness Comte d' Artois, who 1782 has received permission from the King, Aug. his brother, to affift at the fiege as a volunteer 30th. in the combined army, of which their most Christian and Catholic Majesties have honoured me with the command, arrived in this Camp the 15th instant. This young Prince has been pleased in passing through Madrid, to take charge of fome letters, which had been fent to that capital from this, and which are addressed to perfons belonging to your garrison—his Royal Highness has defired that I would transmit them to you, and that to this mark of his goodness and attention, I should add the strongest expressions of esteem for your person and character; I feel the greater pleasure in giving this mark of condescension in this august Prince, as it furnishes me with a pretext, which I have been anxiously looking for these two months that I have been in this camp, to affure you of the high efteem I have conceived for your Excellency, of the immense defire I feel of deferving yours, and of the pleafure to which I look forward of becoming your friend, after I shall have learnt to render myself worthy the honor of facing you as an enemy. His Highness the Duke de Bourbon, who arrived here twenty-four hours after Comte d' Artois, desires also that I should assure you of his particular esteem.

Permit

Aug. little trifles for your table, of which I am fure 30th. you must stand in need; as I know you live entirely upon vegetables, I should be glad to know what kind you like best. I shall add a few partridges for the gentlemen of your houshold, and some ice, which I presume will not be disagreeable in the excessive heat of this climate, at this season of the year—I hope you will be obliging enough to accept the small present I send with this letter.

I have the honor to be, &c.

His Excellency General Eliott, &c.

Gibraltar, Aug. 20.

SIR,

I FIND myself highly honoured by your obliging letter of yesterday, in which your Excellency was so kind as to inform me of the arrival in your camp of his Royal Highness the Comte d' Artois, and the Duke de Bourbon, to serve as volunteers at the siege. These Princes have shewn their judgment in making choice of a master in the art of war, whose abilities cannot fail to make great warriors. I am really overwhelmed with the condescension of his Royal Higness, in suffering some letters for persons in this town to be conveyed from Madrid in his carriages. I flatter myself that your Excellency will give my most profound respects

respects to his Royal Highness, and the Duke 1782 de Bourbon, for the expressions of esteem with Aug. which they have been pleased to honor so in- 30th.

fignificant a person as I am.

I return a thousand thanks to your Excellency for your handsome present of fruits, vegetables and game, you will excuse me however I trust, when I affure you, that in accepting your present, I have broken through a resolution, which I had faithfully kept fince the beginning of the war, and that was, never to receive, or procure by any means whatever, any provisions, or other commodity for my own private use; so that without any preference, every thing is fold publicly here, and the private foldier (if he has money) can become a purchaser as soon as the Governor. I confess I make it a point of honor to partake both of plenty and fcarcity in common with my brave foldiers; this furnishes me with an excuse for the liberty I now take of intreating your Excellency not to heap any more favours on me of this kind, as in future I cannot convert your presents to my own private use. Indeed, to be plain with your Excellency, though vegetables at this feafon are scarce with us, every one has got a quantity proportioned to the labour he has beltowed in railing them: the English are naturally fond of gardening and cultivation, and here we find our amusement in it, during the intervals of relt from public duty.

The promife which the Duke de Crillion makes to honour me, in proper time and place, with his friendship, lays me under infinite obligations: the interests of our Sovereigns being

once

1782 once folidly fettled, I shall with eagerness em. Aug. brace the first opportunity to avail myself of so precious a treasure.

I have the honour to be, &c. His Excellency Duke de Crillion, &c.

LETTER XXXVI.

Gibraltar

DEAR BROTHER,

Sept. 1. THE grand action has not yet taken place, though every day adds fresh convincing proofs of a speedy termination. The enemy strenuously exert themselves both by land and sea; they have hauled out sive of their sloating batteries in a line with the first, having bent their sails, and otherwise rigged them. On the isthmus is a battery almost within a pistol shot, sufficient of itself

To strike with dread a legion of infernals, When told they must withstand its mighty rage.

In the camp of Santa Roque, an army of fifty thousand men parade, not worn out with the heavy toils of war, but healthful and vigorous, while our garrison, deprived of all nourishment, and almost as feeble as old age for want of succour, can muster very few more than sive thousand men and boys, including sick, wounded, and disabled, to repulse the efforts

4th.

ketch,

efforts of such a superior force. Lieutenant 1782. Campbell, of the Brilliant, was privately dis-Sept. 1. patched with letters to Portugal from the Governor, to convey to England.

But as we're actors—Europe the spectators,
I trust we shall perform in this great cause,
As men determin'd to maintain the right
Of George our king, and Britain's same and welfare.
Although the soe has made a hest'ring boast.
That each discharge from land and sea we'll find,
Two thousand shot and shells from guns and mortars,
Will constantly be show'ring on the garrison.

Wind E. Two French line of battle ships, 3d. which seemingly stood for the westward, came into Algaziras, on a frigate's speaking to them.

This morning, fixteen large boats came out of the river, and went to the Orange-Grove: they appear to be for the purpose of landing troops, from having a high and thick parapet at the head. Seven of the Spanish junk ships sailed from Algaziras to Orange-Grove this afternoon; they had a very stiff breeze from S. W. but were two hours in performing the distance of four miles. They look very unweildy, and lay deep in the water; three of them have two tier of guns.

The enemy's naval force now stands thus:— Nine ships of the line, three frigates, four xebecs, eight gallies, two cutters, one French ship twenty guns, nine floating batteries complete, one ditto almost sinished, one bomb1782 ketch, about one hundred gun and mortar.

Sept. boats, besides boats for landing troops.

The enemy have been affiduously employed in mounting guns in their fixty-four gun battery. We have kept almost an incessant sire from the rock-gun upon it, but it being so thick covered with fand, the shot makes very little penetration. An additional sield officer is ordered to take post in the lines, and a reinforcement to the New Mole guard. The Corsican company that were embodied August 4th, are ordered for duty to-morrow. Every one that is able to fire a musquet, or carry a shot, must take post upon any alarm. The tenth sloating battery is roofed, and they have begun to rig her;—a few days more, and then we shall fall to it ding-dong.

A floating caltle was towed from the river to Orange Grove; upwards of two hundred boats lay at the mouth of the first river. Three French polacres arrived from the westward at Algaziras, with troops. A Spanish deserter came in last night, says, the enemy are only wait-

ing for the Prince of Nassau.

7th.

The three remaining junk ships at Algaziras, have taken in their masts. The enemy have erected stairs on the floating castle arrived at Orange Grove yesterday. At day-break this morning, several of the enemy's cruizers appeared off the Old Mole; and for want of sufficient light, the sentinels alarmed the guards, with the arrival of the junk ships. Five line of battle ships, and one of the junkers, proceeded to Orange Grove this afternoon; the latter was three hours on her way.

GARRISON

CE

ft.

na

ba

an

fu

to.

an plo

tal

VO

fla

pai

ou

we bay

ed

Ser

in fer

pa th

W

GARRISON ORDERS.

1782

The marine brigade to take Europa advance, and Se. Little-bay guards to-morrow.

Reinforcements are ordered likewise to Prince's-lines, Landport, Waterport, Main and Ragged-staff guards.

This morning, Lieutenant-General Boyde 8th. took post on the grand-battery (having command of all the batteries) and the necessary arrangements being made from the rock-gun to the Old-Mole-Head, we began a furious cannonade of red-hot balls upon the enemy's Mahonbattery (mounted with fix pieces of ordnance) and other lines of approach, together with a fupply of shells and carcasses;—the most intoxicating joy gained pollellion of the foldiery, and every heart and hand was chearfully employed; and while gazing crouds who had taken post upon Andalusia's hills, beheld the vollies of destruction that slew in showers, and the fad effects that were productive of the redflaming balls, our men rejoiced, and made a pastime of the dire employ. The foe withstood our fire with intrepidity, until most of their works and the thirteen-gun battery next the bay, were blazing in feveral places, and ftrewed over with mangled limbs and dead bodies. Several parties appeared upon the glacis, and in an undaunted manner, tore up the fasciens: ieme kept pouring of baskets of sand upon the parts that were on fire, and others running to the fea for buckets of water. Thus they flood, while showers of balls fell on every side, and many were observed to be knocked off the works.

t

fl

as

W

al

al

V

W

di

an

ca

ur

th

W

ma

ing

cai

We

Fre

car

rep

tha

WO

the

the

fre

ad

fre

1782 works. I affure you, it was a horrid scene of Sept. slaughter, and the enemy were constrained to cease their cannonade, to save the remainder of their men. The fire continued in this spirited manner from seven till near one o'clock, during which we had several killed and wounded, among whom were Lieutenant Boag, of the Royal Artillery, and Ensign Gordon, of the 58th regiment, but not mortally. The battery, which mounted thirteen pieces of cannon, was entirely consumed.

9th.

This morning, between four and five o'clock, the enemy discharged between fifty and fixty shells in a volley on the garrison, and immediately after, opened their fixty-four and other batteries (amounting to about one hundred and thirty pieces of cannon and eighty mortars) with the greatest spirit, which we immediately answered. Their fixty-four gun battery was an inceffant volley the whole time, which lasted most of the day, and the distance being to thort, their thot reached the walls almost as foon as you perceived the flash; the discharge was fo quick, that the balls rolled along the itreets by dozens; this was by way of retaliation for the unexpected compliment we paid them yesterday. Lieutenant Wharton, of the 73d, and feveral men were wounded. The two floating batteries at Algaziras, have got their fails bent.

Wind E. Their line of battle ships, nine in number, viz. seven Spanish, and two French, accompanied by a xebec and frigate, stretched over in a line from the Orange Grove this forenoon, and fired upon the garrison until they passed Europa, when they tacked again, and returned

returned firing the same way, they then stood 1782 to the opposite side, where they lay with their Sept. fails loofe till near fun-fet, when they again stretched over, and under a gentle fail directed their fire to the fouthward, in the same manner as before, continuing their course to the eastward, at which time their gun-boats came over, and rowed in a line under the King's Bastion, and began a fire, but our batteries gave them fuch a fmart reception, that they found it con-The 97th regiment, venient to withdraw. which landed last March, are ordered to do

About one o'clock this morning, the nine 10th. line of battle ships returned from the eastward, and fired upon Europa and the fouthward encampments: they continued a brisk cannonade until they came near the King's Bastion, when they flood over to the Orange Grove and anchored; feveral feamen at Europa and others, were wounded thereby. They repeated this manœuvre again this forenoon, but having been frequently struck by our shot, they came to an anchor on their own fide, where we observed two of them repairing .-From the land fide, they also maintain a brisk cannonade, and their fixty-four gun battery represents an entire blaze. It is apprehended that we shall fuffer considerably from this work.

Between nine and ten o'clock this evening, 11th. the enemy advanced to Bay-side, and set fire to the pallifadoes at that place, which burnt very freely for some time, when one of them again advanced, observing it rather decaying, put fresh fire to those that were not consumed, notwithSept. vanced posts, discharged their musquetry upon him: the gun and mortar-boats came over at the same time, and poured in a brisk salute of shells and shot for above two hours;—some few killed and wounded upon the occasion.

The frigates and shipping within the Boom at New-Mole, were this morning scuttled. The enemy are covering the roofs of the junk ships

with bags, refembling our fand-bags.

This morning, we perceived a great part of the pallifadoes burnt down, fufficient to admit eight men abreast. From this circumstance, we imagine they will not be long before they make the affault. From the ifthmus and forts they keep a conftant fire, and this morning, as I came off Landfort Guard, crossing the Efplanade, I observed a soldier before me, lying on the ground, and his head fomewhat raifed; I ran to him, imagining the man had life, and lifted him up, when fuch a fight was difplayed to my view, that I think I shall never forget: a twenty-fix pound ball had gone through his body, and his entrails as they hung out from the orifice, were of a most disagreeable resemblance. The shot from the enemy was dropping on every fide, and as I found his life was gone, I left him on the fame fpot, and made the best of my way to the southward. A party of men buried him foon afterwards. The floating batteries at the Orange Grove have been taking in stores, &c. yesterday and to-day. The other two also arrived there after a tedious passage from Algaziras.

Several boats have been brought out of the rivers to the Orange Grove; some of them seem

to

fu

to have a kind of cover, which we suppose is 1782 to shelter them from our musquetry, when Sept. they come near the shore. The wind being 12th. westerly, we shall expect the junk ships to embrace this opportunity. The enemy have erected stands or booths around the shore, lined with crimson or scarlet, where the nobles and grandees will take their seats.

A report is just circulated, that a fleet is observed in the Gut; we hope it is the British coming to our relief; every one seems impatient to discover their colours: a gentlemen who has been taking a view says they are French and Spanish men of war; if so, our fate is in-

evitable.

The fleet are now distinguishable by the naked eye; they are ships of force, under French and Spanish colours standing for the Bay. The garrison are greatly agitated and disappointed in their expectations. Will you believe me, brother, there are forty-sour sail of the line, exclusive of the nine already on the station, who are now anchoring between Algaziras and the Orange Grove. If we can withstand this force, we may bid defiance to all the world. There are ten admirals slags in the fleet.

This afternoon the gun and mortar-boats came daringly on, as much as to fay, "Ye dogs furrender;" but luckily a shot struck one of them, when she disappeared; the rest soon afterwards retired. Major Lewis, of the Royal Artillery, was wounded this day.

A reinforcement is ordered to Queen's Lines, and to the different picquets, nine of which

are to take post in town.

That

1782 That our enemies may be defeated, is the Sept. fincere and hearty wish of 12th.

Your loving Brother.

LETTER XXXVII.

Gibraltar.

k

flo

n ti

b

re

to

ai w

m

h

fic

fe

re

th

ba

ti

lir

m

dr

ra

do

th

DEAR BROTHER,

Sept. To arm! to arms! is all the cry. The enemy's floating batteries have weighed anath. chor, and are now under fail with a fine breeze at N. W. Their colours wanton in the wind, with gaudy decorations for the battle, while thousands of spectators from you glittering shore impatient wait to triumph in their success. They have now tacked with their heads towards the garrison, and what is remarkable, they work them without a man being exposed or seen.

Half past nine o'Clock.

The floating batteries have just brought to, between the Old-Mole-Head and South Bastion, within eight hundred yards of the walls—a very bold manœuvre.—Adieu! Victory or death will crown our cause. The garrison and floatantees are engaged—the ignivomous appearance of the Bay and Rock, cannot be described by words.

Half

Half past Eleven at Night. 1782

Sep. 13.

Tired and fatigued, I fit down to let you know, that the conflict is over, after a stubborn and well-fought battle, by which the enemy's ships are on fire. When they came on at nine o'clock this morning, they proceeded in admirable order, fuccessively to their different stations, and as they moored began to fire with The cannonade on both the utmost vivacity. fides foon became truly tremendous, the land batteries co-operating with the junk ships to render the attack more formidable, poured into the garrison prodigious discharges, which the artillery in their enthuliaim difregarded, and particularly directed the ordnance on these wonderful ships of destruction. Our aftonishment was raised to the highest pitch, on beholding our heaviest shot rebound from their fides, and an unufual anxiety feemed to poffess the mind of all ranks, when a thirteen inch shell, which dropped on the roof of the Admiral's ship, resisted penetration! twelve o'clock the batteries were supplied with red bot shot, the exertions of the men employed at the guns, became more animated, and the fire was maintained with unabating firm-The calualties of war on most of the batteries, evinced the strength of the opposition; the enemy continuing the fire in good line, and powerfully supported from the ifthmus in a flanking direction. Near four hundred pieces of cannon being engaged for feveral hours, the fuperiority on either fide was doubtful, until towards the evening, when the flag ship was observed to smoke considerably, 1782 bly, and the enemy's fea fire rather slacken. Sep. 13 Confusion soon after was apparent on board

the Spanish ships. Our cannonade became more terrible as our fpirits revived with the prospect of success, from the hope of the hot That bringing the action to a speedy decision. The further exertions necessary to subdue these aftonishing machines were truly arduous, and required fortitude and perleverance to effect. The fmoke from the flag ship continued to en. crease, and about seven o'clock we observed the fecond ship in command, in a similar condition. The fire was then redoubled on the remaining eight, and as the night began to close, we ob. ferved with pleasure the scintilation of the balls, as they flew from our cannon. fouthermost ships thortly after made signals of distress—an indistinct clamour, with piercing shrieks, was heard during the little intervals of ceffation of the cannonade. The Spanish fleet detached their boats to afford affiltance to the two ships on fire, several being seen along-side by the flash of the ordnance—from their situation, and the heavy and well directed fire of our artillery, they must have shared abundantly in the general havock. Having gained an advantage over the enemy, and the men at the guns being almost worn out by fatigue and the labour of the stubborn action, the Governor ordered a part to be relieved by a detachment of one hundred men from the Marine Brigade, under the command of Lieutenant Trentham of the navy, leaving officers and non-commissioned officers at the different batteries, to direct the seamen in the mode of firing the hot thot. If

If you could have peeped over the Rock and 1782 viewed our feveral employs, you could not Sep. 13 have forbore fmiling; those stationed to work the guns, from the excessive heat of the day, and the dirt from the gun-powder, refembled The fons of Vulcan were busy at Ethiopians. the forges, whilst others were allotted to carry the blazing balls on an iron inftrument made for that purpose, but as these did not furnish fusficient for the vast supply required at the batteries, wheel-barrows were procured, lined with wet fand, and half a dozen thirtytwo pound balls thrown into each. tigue attending the conveyance of shot to the cannon, was very great, from the heat which iffued from fuch large bodies of hot iron, together with wheeling the barrows up the afcent to the line wall.

What with the arduousness of the work—the warmth of the weather—the scorching heat of furnaces, forges, and piles of blazing balls, besides the clouds of smoke from the ordnance, an universal thirst prevailed, and a drink of water (which was all the allowance for the day) could scarcely be procured. It is with pleasure I inform you, that an officer* who commanded a battery, observing the men almost exhausted with drought, and feeling for their situation, took the water key from the post, proceeded to the fountain, and returned unhurt with a refreshing supply, through the enemy's intersecant sire.

During the engagement, we had the inconfolable loss of Captain Reeves of the Royal Artillery,

^{*} Lieutenant Galpin, 72d regiment.

Sep. 13 Lieutenant Godfrey, of ditto, Lieutenant Whetham, 58th, and Captain Alexander M'Kenzie of 73d regiments, wounded, beside several non-commission officers and men, killed and wounded.

14th.

One o'Clock in the Morning.

tar

Bu

CO

ne

an

fte

to

bu

on

in

ex

of

fe

bo

d

I

V

0

V

The floating batteries have ceased firing, and and one of them has broke out in flames from stem to stern; several others evince the effica. cy of the hot shot. The artilley continue to direct the fire on fuch as do not outwardly fmoke, which they are enabled to do with the utmost precision, by the light thrown on the water by the flames. An officer and eleven men floated in upon a piece of timber, being part of a floating cattle, destroyed by a shell from the garrison, as she was steering to cooperate with the battering ships. Brigadier Curtis, with a detachment of feamen, has manned our gun-boats, and drawn them up to flank the enemy, and prevent them from endeavouring to remove fuch of the ships as are not on fire.

Day * Break.

Our Bay appears a scene of horror and conflagration, the soe are bewailing their perilous situation, whilst our gun-boats are busily employed in saving the unhappy victims from surrounding slames and threatening death, although the enemy from their land batteries inhumanly discharged their ordnance upon our tars

tars to prevent their affording them relief. 1782
But never was bravery and humanity more Sep. 14
conspicuous, for notwithstanding the imminent danger to be apprehended from so daring an enterprize, yet the British boats generously steered to these slaming devourers, and draged the sufferers from their desperate state.

Two of the enemy's boats which attempted to escape, were pursued by Brigadier Curtis, but only one was captured.—She surrendered on receiving a round of grape, which covered

the boat and must have done mischief.

Six o'Clock.

One ship has this moment exploded, in the midst of our boats, who are humanely relieving a distressed enemy. The explosion was grand and terrible—the wreck spread to a vast extent. and the concussion broke several panes of glass on shore. The greatest uneasiness is selt for the safety of Brigadier Curtis, and the boats with him.—The whole are enveloped in a cloud of smoke. Another of the floating batteries has exploded with a more tremendous noise than the first.

To hear the lamentation of the crews,
The groans, the cries, that through the flames refound,
Imploring our affiftance from the danger
Of fire and water—ready to devour:
Words are too weak to give a just description!
One of their ships blew up with dreadful noise,
While Curtis grappled to her scorching sides,
The blazing beams, the masts, the yards and carriages
In the explosion scatter'd in the air,
And cover'd o'er the sea with smoaking wreck.

Seven

1782 Sep. 14

Seven o'Clock.

(

tou

tom

As

the

hur

ed 1

tho

the

tor

roy

by

Th

tate

inc

tin

wh

we

on,

ien

the

tar

Eac

To

W

To

Sor

An

Kin

W

(

Our anxiety for the Brigadier and men has ceased—he this moment landed at the New Mole, with a body of prisoners taken in the battering ships. One of our gun-boats was sunk by the explosion of the second ship, and a hole was forced through the bottom of the Brigadier's boat, by which his Coxswain was killed and another man wounded. The seamen were under the necessity of leaving numbers to their burning sate, who, terrified at their desperate condition, rent the air with their shrieks, on perceiving the British boats make to shore.

The description the Spanish prisoners give of the dreadful situation of their countrymen, left on board the junkers, with what they suffered, is unparalelled, I believe, in the annals of the sad essects of war. The boat captured by the Brigadier, had one man killed and several wounded by the round of grape, which

compelled her to strike.

A remarkable instance of providence I cannot help mentioning:—A young boy on board one of the floating batteries, (which was almost in an entire blaze,) observing our boats making for shore, got upon the head, wept and cried, and in the Spanish tongue called for help; his entreaties prevailed, and one of our boats, notwithstanding the immense danger which threatened, rowed towards him, which he perceiving, jumped into the sea, and at that very instant the ship exploded, with the greatest part of the hands on board. The boat soon after took the boy up.

Eight

Eight o'Clock.

1782 Sep. 14

Captain Curtis has landed at New Mole about four hundred prisoners, including officers; some of them miserably wounded and scorched. As the Spanish officers came past a surnace at the New Mole, in which there was about one hundred red hot balls, and some of them melted with the excessive heat, they shrugged their shoulders, and gave a piteous groan at what

their eyes beheld.

Our feamen are bringing the trophies of victory on shore, one has just landed with the royal standard of Spain which was intended by the foe to be hoisted on these battlements. The hills and heights were covered with spectators, when the tars began their procession, incessant shouts and repeated acclamations continued from the Mole to the South Parade, where the Governor and principal officers were congratulating each other on the occasion, to whom they carried the colours, which sensibly pleased our gallant Chief, who joined the crowd in three cheers, and presented the tars with some gold as a reward.

Each heart and foul's enflam'd with highest pleasure,
To view Iberias's ensigns in our hands;
While every Briton crouds around the standard,
To prize the grand display of glorious conquest.
Some smile—then view—cares—admire—shake hands,
And, with a heart-selt zeal, recount the battle:
King George and victory re-echoes round,
While Andalusia's shore weeps at the found.

Nine

1782 Sep. 14

Nine o'Clock.

The prisoners are escorted to Wind-mill Hill, except the wounded, who are conducted to the Naval Hospital, where every care and ten. derness will be shewn them: some of them really were most horrid spectacles; one in par. ticular I cannot help mentioning, who was carried by four men on a hand-barrow—he had received a wound on his face, so that his note and eyes feemingly were feparated, hanging by a piece of fkin, and the motion of the men that carried him occasioned its slapping back. wards and forwards, much refembling a mask. Though he must have felt the most sensible agony, yet he looked round him with great complacency, as he passed the numerous crouds of people.

Eleven o'Clock.

Of the fix ships that were on fire three have exploded. One has almost burnt to the water's edge, and the other two nearly in the same The enemy's land batteries mainfituation. tain their cannonade upon the garrison, ipitting forth their venomed rage, while on the opposite shore confusion and consternation vi-The nobles and grandees who fibly appears. had affembled to view the capture of the place are withdrawing from the Spanish camp, to carry the direful news to Philip's court; but what will be his furprise, when they announce that the all-victorious impregnable floatantees are loft, and that flaming balls effected their ruin. Our One ship that was judged not to be on fire, 1782 unexpectedly burst out into slames, and soon Sep. 14 after blew up with great violence. The shock made the walls of the garrison shake.—We hoped to have saved these last two ships as trophies of our glorious success.

Our Governor, to please the soldiery and inhabitants, has directed the Spanish standard to be reversed and tied to a gun on the South Parade. It must be a galling vexation to our foes to behold their royal slag so ignobly displayed, and made the sport of a multitude.

Four o'Clock in the Afternoon.

The last battery has just exploded off the Old Mole Head; our red hot shot had not fired her, and it being found impracticable to warp her in here, it was judged expedient to detach a boat to set her in slames, which accordingly Captain Gibson effected without any injury from the land batteries.

Thus finished an action of great magnitude, a defensive victory terminated by seamen equally brave as humane.

1-

n-

t-

16

1-

10

ce

to

ut

ice

re

ın.

ur

The enemy during the day extinguished the fire, by the assistance of engines, which supplied them with a vast quantity of water, but the continual and excessive discharge of red hot balls entirely frustrated their purpose, and they were constrained to desist from the use of water, as it was found that the battering they had received opened the caulking, and let the water run between their decks, instead of the channels that were made in their sides, to receive it, so that they were apprehensive of their

Sept. tion of these machines was excellent; for the enemy being sensible that we should fire red-hot balls (though they did not imagine so fast, nor unless the gun was elevated) had judiciously contrived conveyances in the larboard sides, for a continual circulation of water, which was furnished by working of the engines. From the nicest calculation, the floating batteries received upwards of five thousand red-hot balls, of twenty-four and thirty-two pounds weight. Three of the floating batteries burnt to the water's edge, six blew up from the hot shot, and one we set on fire by a pitch shirt.

The inclosed are copies of returns, where in you will find the strength of the garrison, the names of the flotantees, and their strength, with the number of prisoners saved by our boats; and since victory has crowned our arms, with satisfaction I conclude, being impatient for you to hear the account) and beg leave to subscribe myself,

Your loving Brother.

List of the Battering Ships, destroyed by the Red-Hot Shot, September 13th and 14th, 1782.

Guns.	Men
Pastora, Admiral Don Morena 28	700
Talla Piedra, Prince of Nassau 28	700
St. Francisco de Paula, 1st. Don Langara 26	700
Rosario, Don Francisco Munoz 26	
St. Christoval, Don Frederico Gravina 18	
St. Frai	ncisco

GIDKALIAK.		31
Guns.	Men	1782
St. Francisco de Paula 2d. D. Pablola Cosa 9	366	Sept.
Sta. Ana, Don Joseph Angeler 10	350	
St. Juan, Don Francisco Guicochea - 10	400	
Principe Carlos, Don Joseph Topete, - 11	400	
Declores, Don Antonio Bassorto 6	280	
Total - 172	5196	
N. B. Thefe guns were mounted on the	he lar-	
board fide, exclusive of the number on the board fide.		

n

t.
ie

e-

n,
h,
ur
ns,
nt

ed-

1en

700

700

700

600

isco

Prisoners taken by Captain Curtis, from the Battering Ships.

Sea Officers		— .	3
Land Officers		_	3
Cadets			2
Chaplains -			3
Surgeon -	-	-	1
Serjeants, Co	rporals, &	Privates,	216
Artillerists, I	and 2, Se	a 5, —	7
Marines .		-	30
Seamen			81
French Soldie	ers —	<u> </u>	II
	Total	_	357

Strength of the Garrison, Rank and File,* 13th of September, 1782.

Including Corporals and Private Men.

1782	39th		-	-	452
Sept.	56th -	-	-	-	457
	58th	—		. —	447
	72d	_	_	-	793
	73d	-	-	_	778
	97th	_	.—	_	639
	Hardenberg	g's	_	-	344
	Reden's	-	-	_	337
	La Mott's	—		_	348
	Artificer Co	mpa	ny		348
	Corficans		=	-	72
		_			
		1	'otal	-	5703

LETTER XXXVIII.

15th.

3 .

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

YESTERDAY evening the enemy marched a considerable body of troops from their camp to the Spanish lines, prior to which the combined sleet made signal for failing, and unmoored, by which the garrison were in expectation of an attack during the night; but the Dons did not renew the sport. The combined sleet remain at anchor in the Bay, with foretop-sails loose. The land batteries continue the cannonade. Lieutenant M'Namara, of the 72d regiment, and a few soldiers of different

it a vid wit mu fail bee two not had tier

boa mo

plie Th

25,

fere We a ft fon

boa cor und and rev fail

pay and far

an

no

vic

ferent regiments, were wounded by the fire. 1782 We fent a flag of truce to the enemy, with Sept. a statement for the Duc de Crillon, of the pri- 15th. foners faved by the British gun-boats, yester-

day morning.

From the account received by the prisoners, it appears, that the floating batteries were provided with eight days provision of all kinds, with abundance of wine and brandy. The ammunition for each, was not complete on their failing, but the fupply deficient was to have been forwarded after battering the Rock for twenty-four hours, provided the garrison did not furrender. The ship mounting 90 guns, had only 3000 rounds on board; the fingle tier ship had no guns in reserve on the starboard fide; all the two tier had about twelve mounted on the starboard, and were well supplied with powder, ball, and cased grape shot. The fmaller veffels drew about 19, the larger 25 feet water.

This morning, previous to the attack, an aid-de-camp to the Duc de Crillion, was fent on board each veffel, who after examining her condition, represented to the crew the glorious undertaking they were about to launch into, and promising in the King's name, the highest reward for their bravery. Each foldier and failor was to be exempt from all further fervice, to have a gratuity of fifty dollars and full pay for the remainder of his life. The widows and children of the killed, were to enjoy the

same benefit.

The combined fleet still continue at anchor, 18t and the enemy's batteries on the land fide cannot forget their usual employ. This afternoon,

1872 the grenadier company of the thirty-ninth re-Sept. giment, escorted the body of a deceased spanish captain (who died of the wounds he received on the thirteenth) to the place of interment, and fired three vollies over the grave. Yesterday we received a slag of truce from Spain.

boats for landing troops still remain at the Orange Grove; several men wounded by the land fire. Ten gun-boats fired about one hundred rounds on the Rock this morning.

d. Wind W. Arrived a cutter at Algaziras; feveral of the Spanish officers have been per-

mitted to return to Spain.

29th. Very hot fire on both fides; a gun was difmounted this forenoon in the Spanish fixty-four gun battery, by a shot from the garrison. Our loss this day is, one man killed and nine wounded. Major Horsfall, of the 72d regiment, received a wound by the explosion of a shell. Yesterday a criminal was executed at the usual place for a burglary.—The Spanish army at noon were drawn up in a line for near two hours, and covered ground to the extent of four miles.

30th. Wind W. The Spanish towers this morning, displayed several colours, when the garrison attentively watched the Gut, expecting the arrival of our sleet, but to our great regret, only some neutrals appeared. Received a slag of truce from the Orange Grove.

Oct. 1. The enemy's gun and mortar boats came over, and fired their usual quantity of shot and shells, and then retired. Three shells fell in the Naval Hospital, but did no injury. The

The

The garrison played very smartly upon them. 1782 A Corsican came over in the night from Algazi-Oct. 1.

ras, in a boat.

A frigate came over from the opposite side 4 this morning, under a slag of truce, and lay opposite the Old-Mole-Head, upon which a boat was detached to receive her. The particulars are not known. The enemy continue their cannonade.

A flag of truce from the enemy. Twelve 6th.

fettees arrived from the east at Algaziras.

Two Spanish launches, under a white flag, 8t came over for the purpose of taking up an anchor left by the frigate off the New-Mole-Head on the 4th instant, the Governor having given permission for the same. The combined fleet have not made any signal to sail, but remain spectators of the land cannonade, which is maintained on both sides. All the Spanish prisoners are gone to Spain, except sifty-nine, who have inlisted into the British service.

This afternoon, a body of troops embarked 10th. from the Orange Grove on board the men of war, from which we conjecture they are tired of the expedition, and are going to remove to some more successful part. Several signals on

the tower at Cabritta.

Last night, wind N. W. A strong breeze 11th. sprung up, drove several of the enemy's line of battle ships from their moorings, which occasioned a general confusion among the combined sleet; at day-break this morning, we discovered one nearly under the King's Bastion, and several others within cannon shot. The King's Bastion began a cannonade upon her, when she sinding it impossible to bear off, struck

1782 struck her colours, and ran ashore off Ragged. Octob. staff, where Captain Curtis went, and took 11th. possession of her, and brought the crew to She proves to be the San Miquel, of 70 guns, and fix hundred and fifty men, commanded by Brigadier Don Juan Morena. others, with some damage and difficulty, got The prisoners anchorage on the opposite side. give an account that our fleet is off the coast, and that the troops which embarked yesterday, were a reinforcement to the different ships, as they lay upon a fpring cable, determined to obstruct the entrance of the British squadron. We hope the storm has not been prejudicial to our fleet, as they were fo near the coast, for our fate will be determined, if a relief for the place should be obstructed. Many are of opinion, that had the fform continued with the fame violence for an hour longer, we should have been in possession of almost one half of their fleet.

The tower at Cabritta, has spread the signal alarm, but the combined fleet have not shewn any inclination to go out; three of the enemy's ships we fired at this morning, have struck their topmasts. Our batteries have been siring shells these three hours, upon a ship of the line at anchor on this side Fort Negro, prevented from removing from her anchorage (where necessity had compelled her to moor) on account of the violent breeze; we could not observe to have done any damage to her.

Wind W. The Latona frigate arrived this evening in Rosia Bay, with dispatches for the Governor, and gives an account that our fleet consists of thirty-four sail of the line, and a

reinforce-

h

eı

tl

m

reinforcement of two regiments for the gar- 1782 rison. The enemy did not attempt to prevent Octob. her entrance.

The British fleet, under the command of Lord Howe, passed to the eastward, where they are now lying too. It is supposed this experienced Admiral chooses to have sea-room, rather than run the hazard of the Spanish sire-ships, which they have in readiness to run in. Came in the Panther of sixty-sour guns, laden with powder. Several store-ships came in during the night.

The enemy's fleet still occupy the opposite side; seven of their ships are repairing the da-

mages they received in the late ftorm.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The Governor is extremely happy to communicate to the garrison, the following instructions he has just received from England.

Extract from the Earl of Shelburne, principal Secretary of State.

St. James's, 10th July, 1782.

"I AM honoured with his Majesty's com-"mands, to assure you, that not any encouragement "shall be wanting to the brave officers and soldiers

" under your command. His royal approbation of the past, will no doubt be a powerful incentive to

" further exertions; and I have the King's autho" rity to affure you, that every distinguished mark of
" exulation

1782 " emulation and gallantry, which shall be per-Octob. " formed in the course of the siege by any, even of 12th. " the lowest rank, shall meet with ample reward " from his gracious protection and favour.

"These, his Majesty's intentions, you will com"municate in the most public manner, to every
"part of your garrison, that they may be perfectly
fatisfied, that their Royal Master feels for the
difficulties they are under, admires their glorious
resistance, and will be happy to reward their
merit."

ward, within fight of the garrison, and the combined fleet at anchor at Algaziras. The shipping that were damaged in the storm are not yet repaired. The guns and stores of the San Miquel have been taken out, to make her float.

This forenoon a frigate came round Europa Point, with a red flag upon her fore-top-mast head, and fired a gun to windward, as a fignal of desiance; upon which the combined fleet got under weigh, and went out, consisting of forty-five sail of the line. The garrison were greatly delighted; and those whose duty did not confine them to one place, repaired to the heights and look-outs to view the engagement, but the two fleets in a short time were out of fight. Reports were then circulated, that the discharge of cannon was heard, and others, that the flash of guns were seen. One of the enemy's ships, that came near the Rock, was fired

fired at by the garrison and Panther, but did 1782 not receive any material damage. The Panther Octob. sailed to the eastward. Captain Curtis and the Governor's aid-de-camp, are on board her. Lieutenant Lumley, of the Royal Artillery, and several men, wounded this day by the land sire.

Wind E. This forenoon we discovered the 18th. British fleet standing from the eastward, in good order, having got the windward, and the combined fleet in full chace. An anxiety was discernable in each countenance, and every eminence was lined with spectators, who gazed with eager eyes on both fleets, expecting every minute the battle to begin. The gratification of their wishes could not be obtained, as Lord Howe's squadron was too inferior to engage the enemy, while he could possibly avoid it. He therefore fent in the men of war (who had the 25th and 59th regiments on board) and the transports with provision and stores, but as foon as these two regiments were received by the boats, the men of war immediately joined the squadron, and proceeded through the Gut in three divisions, the enemy following them at about a league distance. dentible uneafiness now prevailed for the fafety of the British squadron; for although we had received a relief both of men and provisions, yet the fituation of Lord Howe engaged too much of our attention, to leave room to congratulate each other on the happiness of receiving supplies; however, after both fleets were out of fight, we began to turn our eyes to our own affairs, and to liften to the adventures of our late arrived friends. They fay that

1782 that two of our transports fell in among the Octob. combined fleet, in the night, and were captured; but that to the eastward of the Rock the fleets had not shewn any inclination to

come to action.

The Bay on the other fide is almost defenceigth. less, and Algaziras that has of late been the grand rendezvous for shipping, has lost all its The land cannonade is kept up with great vivacity, but it appears to be a folly for the besiegers still to continue the siege. thall fight like game cocks now; Sir Charles Noels fucceeds Captain Curtis as Commodore on this station. Our shipping that were scuttled in the New Mole, being got up, the feamen are returning again to their usual employ, military evolutions being no longer necessary for them.

The San Miquel floated this day, and anchor-

ed at New Mole.

Nov. 4. The gun and mortar-boats visited us, without effecting any confiderable damage. Some regiments have marched out of the camp of St. Roque. It is expected that the hearty dose we have given them, has greatly lowered their ambition, and constrained them to direct their attention to fome other place. A criminal was executed this day. Yesterday was wounded Lieutenant John M'Kenzie, of the 72d regiment.

> The 25th and 59th regiments that arrived here the 18th of October, are put on the duty strength, which will be a relief to the garrison. The San Miquel is in New Mole, where the enemy's mortar-boats have endeavoured to damage her. Yesterday they fired several rounds

> > Wind

but without effect.

Wind W. Arrrived a xebec at Algaziras, 1782 the enemy's shipping lay very quiet viewing Nov. our rattling batteries. It is amazing that the 20th. Spaniards are not tired of bombarding the place, as they cannot have any hope of taking

The gun and mortar-boats came over and 27th. fired at the San Miquel, feveral shells fell in the New Mole and about the Mole Parade. Some few wounded.

The enemy's fire-ships are gone into the ri- Dec. 2. vers, but the boats for landing troops remain at the Orange Grove. The encampment on the right of Fort Negro has been struck some time, and the troops marched away. In all probability they have given over the thought of another attack. The land fire is continued with great spirit, by which we have many men wounded. Yesterday arrived the Achilles ordnance store ship from England.

The gun and mortar-boats came into the 7th. Bay and fired particularly about the New Mole, fupposed to be intended for the San Miguel, it is a matter that vexes them to behold her in our possession, and for this reason they are constantly endeavouring to destroy her. in a deferter from the Spanish lines.

Wind S. E. A xebec and a galley flanding from the eastward, having come pretty near Europa, we discharged three shot at them, one went through the rigging of the xebec, but was not observed to do any other damage.

Wind W. Arrived a brig in nineteen days from Deptford. The enemy did not offer to interrupt her. Nothing material in the Bay.

which waited in the Bay fome hours, but no

Dec. my from Algaziras, but the wind continuing 14th. to blow exceedingly fresh, and a great swell in the bay, we did not perceive her business until she was returning. We then sent out a boat,

answer was made by the Spaniards.

again, but no notice was taken of it at Algaziras, or Orange Grove; after waiting upwards of two hours in the Bay, it returned unanf-wered to the Mole-head.

of truce, which was immediately answered from garrison. The business is not made public.

and mortar-boats came over, and fired for near two hours, directed towards the New-Mole, supposed with an intention to destroy the San Miquel; a thirteen-inch shell dropped into her, and exploded between decks; killed four, and wounded eleven men, but did not do any material damage to the ship. Eight of the garrison gun-boats sallied out within half-gun shot of the enemy, and kept them off, while the southward batteries covered them in advancing.

over upwards of one hundred women and children, taken on board a transport, with the baggage belonging to the 25th and 59th regiments. The women says, the Spaniards treated them with great humanity and attention.

25th. This afternoon the enemy's gun and mortar boats, arranged in two divisions, began a cannonade and bombardment upon the garrison;

Sir

Sir Charles Noels immediately manned our gun 1782 boats, and headed them into the Bay, where Dec. a spirited fire was kept up for upwards of two hours. The batteries on the ishmus and lines kept pouring in a liberal discharge at the same time. The enemy threw many shells and shot on shore.

On the fea-side we are only now and then 31st. interrupted, but the land batteries keep constantly roaring. We in complasance return the favour, nor are we any ways desicient in number. This year has finished with glorious success on our side, in gallantly repulsing our combined and determined enemies; and should they think proper to pay another visit, I hope our arms will prove equally victorious. May the new year be propitious, and establish a a permanent tranquility, that we may partake of the blessings of Providence, from which we have been upwards of three years deprived.

I am, Dear Brother,

Your's &c.

END OF THE YEAR 1782.

4th.

9th.

LETTER XXXIX.

Jan. 1. DEAR BROTHER,

Gibraltar.

THE new year has began, much the same as the last finished: vollies of shot and shells hourly discharged from the Spanish works upon the ruins of the town, by which we have sometimes a few killed and wounded. Lieutenant Holloway, of the Engineers, received a wound upon the Hill Batteries, this day.

The Spaniards have renewed their former vigilance in the Bay; their naval force has been distributed, some to Cabritta-Point, others to Ceuta, and a few cruizing to the eastward and westward. What hope of taking the Rock, can induce them to continue the cannonade and prevent succours from arriving.

This afternoon a squadron of gun-boats to the number of thirty-two, with a sew mortarboats, came over from Algaziras, and fired for about an hour and a half, chiefly directed to the New Mole.

Our gun-boats were quickly manned by the tars, and fired with great spirit and good effect, the land batteries co-operating with them. One of the *Spanish* gun-boats was sunk by a shell from the garrison, when the *Dons* considered a removal necessary.

Wind W. This forenoon a fignal was made on the tower at Cabritta Point, when two gallies went out from Algaziras. A fail appeared under the Barbary shore; the gallies soon firetched stretched across, and fired two shots, when she 1783 furrendered to the Dons; she appeared but a small settee. The gun and mortar boats visited us, but happily no lives were lost—two soldiers lost their legs by their fire.

Between five and fix o'clock this morning, 10th, the Spanish gun and mortar-boats came over and fired, as usual, towards the New Mole. Several of the shot and shells fell upon the red sands, where the men were paraded for guard. The Governor to divert their attention from the danger, walked through the ranks, conversing with the soldiery, while the Town-Major formed the different guards, which are mounted by detachments from each regiment. A few accidents happened in the garrison, but not one person killed.

This being the anniversary of Her Majesty's 18th, birth day, the royal standard was hoisted, and a falvo sired at the enemy's works, with shot. The Spaniards made a very quick and spirited return. All quiet in the Bay.

Wind E. Last night arrived a settee from 25th. Tetuan, with poultry the price of which is greatly enhanced. They bring word, that the court of Spain are greatly, dissatisfied with the length and ill success of the siege. This forenoon a soldier was hanged for thest, and died with little emotion.

The gun and mortar-boats continue their 26th. firing from the Bay. They discharged under a heavy cannonade from the garrison, between two and three hundred rounds, and then retired.—Some soldiers at the southward, wounded.

This

This morning the Brilliant frigate, hauled Jan. 29 out of New Mole, and anchored in Rofia Bay.

This afternoon thirteen mortar and fixteen gun-boats came over, and began an attack about five o'clock. Our gun-boats went into the Bay to meet them, and gave them a spirit. ed reception, the Brilliant frigate, and garrifon co-operating. The enemy killed two men and wounded fourteen before they retreated. Second Lieutenant Raffalio, of the Corfican Company, was wounded. We fired fome red hot fhot from elevated guns, which reached the Spanish camp.

Four gun-boats came over this morning, 30th. and fired fix rounds of thot at the Brilliant frigate. The garrison fired a few shells which burst in the air, over the gun-boats, which made them quit their pastime. The Spaniards have not ceased their land cannonade, which at best is but a wasteful expenditure of their ammunition, as the town being destroyed, that object can no longer excite their attention.

I am, dear Brother,

Your's, &c.

LETTER

f

G

D

th

fo tic

ti n tl

fl

LETTER XL.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

R

THIS morning we received (by a flag of 1783 truce) intelligence of the most joyful and Feb. 3 enlivening nature, which for fome time, belief appeared doubtful; but after a few hours fufpense, we had the happiness of being in possession of the particulars, brought by the Spanish flag boat. The Duc de Crillon has fent his compliments to General Elliott, acquainting him that the different courts had agreed upon a cessation of hostilities, and that the preliminary articles of peace would shortly be figned. The garrison, enraptured with the found, spread the harmonious tidings, and in the evening all firing ceased on our side, agreeable to an order fent by his Excellency the Governor to the different posts. The enemy's cannonade became filent in the afternoon.— During the night we fired a few light balls in the isthmus, to discover the situation of the enemy.

I scarce know how to begin upon a subject so truly interesting and captivating. Our situation is changed from noise and confusion, to calm serenity. The atmosphere that was continually disturbed with slames and smoke, is now illumined with variegated brightness; the stars that have been so long eclipsed, now shine with their wonted splendor; and the bespangled rays of Aurora, with resplendent lustre again adorn each hill and height, that for upwards of eighteen months, has only been Q 2 distinguishable

1783 distinguishable by the slashing of pieces of ord. Feb. 3. nance. Our sudden change from war to peace, the tranquility that presides over the battered Rock, and Andalusian shore, so powerfully as fects all ranks in the garrison, that to give you the delineation, would be a task for an able writer. The power of oraory, the most persuasive eloquence, would fall infinitely short in describing our happiness and amazement. Will you believe me in afferting, that every post last night appeared peculiarly solitary, by the silence which all around prevailed, and the hours of slumber seemed uneasy, for want of that martial noise, to which we have been so long accustomed.

I shall now proceed to give you some account concerning the effect upon our late determined antagonists, who seem highly to parti-

cipate in the bleflings of peace.

They appeared in crowds this morning upon the isthmus works, evincing every demonstration of the most heart-felt and lively joy, sending forth unseigned and rapturous congratulations. The long wished-for sound of peace, re-echoes from shore to shore, from hill to hill, from rock to rock, and every tongue is silled with the blissful melody. The Spanish officers at noon came underneath our lines, bowing to the guards, assuring them that an amicable peace had actually taken place.

Our Governor has not made any reduce ment in the number of the guards, not knowing how far the stratagems of war might operate, but waits until the royal declaration arrives from England, when every testimonial will be made as a thanksgiving to our great

Creator,

Creator, for the restoration of the invaluable 1783 and inestimable blessings of peace. Feb. 3

Arrived a flag of truce from Orange Grove;

fays that the articles of peace are figned.

d.

ce,

ed

af.

lve

an

oft

ort

nt.

ery

by

the

of

fo

ac-

er-

rti-

on

ra.

nd-

ıla•

ce,

ill,

led

s at

to

ble

CCC

ar-

or,

Arrived a flag of truce with letters from Duc 5th. de Crillon, specifying the orders received from Madrid, to withdraw the troops and cruizers.

Received another flag of truce with a bag of letters. This forenoon a vessel belonging to Merchant Lynch, sailed out of the Mole, and proceeded past Cabritta unmolested. The Spaniards are withdrawing their stores from the lines.

An aid-de-camp to the Governor, went out 8th. by land, and dined with a Spanish officer in the camp;—in the evening he returned.

Arrived the General Howe ordnance store- 9th. ship, and three small vessels from Portugal;—

they heard nothing of the peace.

A Spanish boat this morning came over from 13th. Orange Grove, with sheep, fowls, and eggs. The Governor ordered them to sell their goods immediately, and depart.

This day we received a parley from the 20th.

lines, with a confirmation of the peace.

This day arrived Sir Roger Curtis, in the March Thetis frigate, with the preliminary articles of 10th. peace, and a ribbon the order of the Bath, for his Excellency General George Augustus Elliott.

I enclose you the following Returns of killed, wounded, &c. which you may depend upon being correct; and I hope in a short time personally to assure you, that

I am, Dear Brother,

Sincerely Your's.

RETURN

Of the Killed and Wounded in the undermentioned Regiments,

From the 12th of April, 1781,—the Day the Bombardment commenced, to the 3d of February, 1783.

	1	Ki	llec	ı	Wounded. Died of Wounds.			Recovered of wounds.								
Regiments	Officers	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Officers	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Officers.	Serjeants	Drummers	Kank & Tile	Officers	Serjeants	Drammers	Rank & File
Roy. Arti.	2	1	0	.44	8	4	11	126	0	0	0	7	8	4	H	119
12	c 1	3	1	13	3	4	7	109	0	0	0	9	3	4	7	100
25	0	0	0	I		I,	0	8	0	0	0	I.	1 1000	*	. 0	7
39) 1	3	1	1721	: 4	3	1	्राष्ट्	[I	t.t	0	5	4 2	4	1	66
56 58	-0	Z	1	16	. 4	3	9	72	0	7 I	9	I	4	3	.,0	64
58	1	Į,	0	12	2	3	. 3	7.3	0.0	ें	00	4	, 2	3	. 3	69
59	0	0	0	Branch Branch Branch			I	18		0	0	4			1	14
. 72	0	2	0 0	35	3 6	15	1	178	9	2			6	13	1	160
73	0	0		28	0	7	D	129	0	. I		1.71			1	108
. 97	0	0	1000	7	A 10 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	14	2	sh.	- 9	0	0	6	0	4	r. I	45
Reden's	0	2	0	7	1	1	0	44	9	0.0		4	1	1	0	40
La Mott's	0	1	0	16	0	3	0	44 48 55 26	0.0.0		0	Ó	. 0	3	0 0	42
Sydow's	0	2	0	6			0	5.5		0.0	0	5	1	7		50
Artificers	6	1	0		3	3	0	Street, Street, St.	1 6		a	0	3	3		26
Marine Bri.	C	I	0	2	0	2	0	3.	ı o	0	9	¥	1 0	1	2	8
Corficans.	0	0	0	110	L	, 0	20	100	. 0	4	0	0	L	39	0	_ 0
Total	5	19	3	193	361	62	171	1013	. 1	6	1	95	35	56	10	918

RETURN

(darious)

RETURN

Of the Enemy's firing against the Garrison.

From their Land Batteries 1781, From 12th April, to 31st Dec. 1782, From 1st Jan. to 31st Dec. 1783, From 1st Jan. to 3d Feb.	Shot. 100841 73792 1123	Shells. 29296 38239	Total. 130137 112031 1947
Total Land Fire, Fired from their Gun and Mortar Boats	175755 6775	68360 7498	244115 14273
Total	182530	75858	258388

Expended by the Garrison, from 12th September, 1779, to the 3d of February, 1783.

Powder	u e	-	2231			Barrels.	lb. 160	oz.
Shells	_	-		_			29,370	
Shot	_	_		-	_		57,160	_
Grape	_	_		-	_		12,684	-
Carcaffes	22	-		-			926	
Light Balls	-	-		-			689	-
					Tota	1	200,829	
the state of the	10							

GIBRALTAR,

GIBRALTAR, 23d April, 1783.

The Garrison being drawn up, conformable to the Orders for this Day, General Elliott addressed the Troops in the following Manner, previous to his being invested with the Order of the Bath.

GENTLEMEN,

- "I HAVE affembled you this day, in order that the officers and foldiers may receive, in the most public manner, an authentic declaration transmitted to me by the
- "Secretary of State, expressing the high sense his Majesty entertains of your meritorious
- " conduct in the defence of this Garrison.
- "The King's fatisfaction upon this event was foon divulged to all the world, by his most gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament.
- "The House of Lords and the House of Commons, not only made the suitable, professions in their address to the Throne, but have severally enjoined me to communicate their unanimous thanks by the fol-

" lowing refolutions.*

« No.

* House of Lords, 13th Dec. 1782.

"Refolved, Nemine Dissentiente, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled, That this House doth highly approve of, and acknowledge the services of the omicers, soldiers, and sailors, lately employed in the Defence of Gibraltar."

House of Commons, 12th Dec. 1782.

"Resolved, Nemine Contradicente, That the thanks of this House be given to the officers, soldiers, and sailors, lately employed in the Desence of Gibraltar."

" No army has ever been rewarded by " higher national honours, and it is well " known how great, universal, and sponta-" neous were the rejoicings throughout the " kingdom upon the news of your fuccess:-" these must not only give you inexpressible " pleasure, but afford matter of triumph to " your dearest friends and latest posterity. As " further proof how just your title is to fuch " flattering distinction at home, rest assured " from undoubted authority, that the nations " of Europe, and other parts are struck with " admiration of your gallant behaviour, even " our late resolute, and determined antago-" nifts, do not scruple to bestow the commen-" dations due to fuch valour and perseve-" rance.

"I now most warmly congratulate you on these united and brilliant testimonies of approbation; amidst such numerous, such exalted tokens of applause, forgive me, faithful companions, if I humbly crave your acceptance of my grateful acknowledgments.

"I only prefume to ask this favour, as having been a canstant witness of your submission to the greatest hardships—your matchless spirit and exertions, and on all occasions your heroic contempt of every danger."

Estimate of the various Articles, and their Average prices, during the Blockade and Siege of Gibraltar, from 21st June 1979, to 3d February, 1783.

Exchange at 39d. the dollar, being the Average upon the whole.

						terl.
Veal, per pound -	dls.		and the same of			of the same of the same of
A calve's head and feet		The second second	. 2 . 5	The state of		10h
Acalve's plack	10	4		I		
Mutton, per pound	4	40		0	- 7	7h
A sheep's 5th and hind q. fold for		40	0	19 N. S.	10	10h
A sheep's head and feet -				0		7h
Acheep's pluck -	4	4		0	8	
Beef, per pound-	L	41	0	0	2.31	10h
A bullock's head without a tongue	7.	4	0	I	4	4h
A bullock's tongue -	2.	4		c	3	
A bullock's liver, per lb	0	4	0		I	1
Fresh tripe, per lb	1	0	0	0	3	
Sarubeef; per lb.	0	3	0	0	1	3
Salt pork, per lb	0	3	0	0	1	3
Fresh pork, per lb.	1	0	0	0	3	3
A hog's pluck	4	4	0	0	14	7h
Goat, per lb	Ţ	2	0	0		I
A goat's pluck	2	0	0	0	4	6
A goar's head	2	4	0	0	8	
Aturky	Ii¢.	0	01	2	8	
A goofe	9	0	0	. 1	10	4
A couple of ducks	6		0	1	1	rih
A pair of fowls	6	6	C	1	ī	tih
A pair of pigeons -	3	0	0	0	9	9
Flour per lb	O		0	0	ī	3.
Bread, per lb.	Õ	3	0	0	1	7h
Salt Butter, per lb.	1	4	0	0	4	10h
Cheefe, per fb	I	4	0	0	4	10h
Rice, per lb '-	0		0	0	I	
Loaf Sugar, per lb	0	3	0	0	7	3
Tea, per lb	14	0	0	2	5	6
Common Candles, per lb	0	6	0	0	2	5
A hen's egg	0	1	8	0	0	7h
A pint of milk	0	3	0	0	1	3
Potatoes, per lb	0	6	0	U	2	5
Onions; per lb	0	6	0	0	2	5

A fifth fignifies the tail, which is as large as any one of the quarters.—This occasions their being called Five-Quarter Sheep.—Their growth is but small.

A SHORT

HISTORY

AND

DESCRIPTION of GIBRALTAR.

THE first name by which this mountain was known was that of Mons Calpe, and it continued to be so called till the incursions of the Arabs in the year 713. It is not my intention to explore the dark history of this famous Rock; it is buried in obscurity, or involved in doubt. Historians fay, that it was possessed by the Scythians at the first settlement of that country. When the all-conquering Romans reduced Iberia, this mountain afforded a temporary afylum to the Baticans; but their refiftance was vain, and a Roman settlement was made to the west of Calpe, which bore the name of Julia Traducta. The Carthiginians feized on all Betica, but it was recovered by Lucius Licinius Lucullus, and Calpe remained in the possession of the Romans until they were ultimately driven out of all Spain by the Weftrogoths in 568. A domestic quarrel introduced the Arabs into Spain in the year 713. The mountain then obtained the name of Jibal Tarik, or Tarik's Mountain, Tarik being the chief under whom the incursion was made; this is declared to be the origin of the name, which by corruption of found and orthography, is now Gibraltar.

It has undergone no fewer than thirteen

fieges.

In 1310 Alonzo Perez de Guzman first took it from the Infidels, which so enraged them, that that they murdered their king, Mahomet.

The second siege was in 1316, when Ismael, king of Grenada, in vain attempted to retake

it.

The third commenced in February 1332, under Abamelique, when the Spaniards, after enduring almost intolerable fatigue, and sub-sisting for weeks on the leather of their shields, were starved into a surrender in the middle of

June.

The fourth siege was begun by Don Alonza XI. in the end of the same month, he having been within four days march of the place on its surrender. This investment was attended with uncommon circumstances of hardship, both to the besieged and besiegers: the latter were blocked up in the neck of Gibraltar by the king of Grenada and Abamelique, who marched with an army to the relief of the garrison. At last, on the 20th of August a peace was concluded, and the siege was raised.

Don Alonza again set down before it in the summer, 1349, and during this, which was the fifth siege, and which continued for nine months, the garrison was reduced to great straits; but Don Alonza was carried off by the

plague in March, 1350.

The Emperors of Fez neglecting their Spanish territories, Juzal, third king of Grenada, took took it in 1410. This was the fixth fiege, but the next year the inhabitants drove out the conquerors, and put themselves under the protection of Muley Beuld, Emperor of Fez.

Juzaf besieged it in form the January following with a fleet and army, and the garrifon was starved into a surrender.—This was

the feventh fiege.

The eighth siege was in 1438, when Don Emique de Guzman attacked it with a strong force, but was defeated by the Moors, and drowned. His son, however, brought off the remains of his army.

In 1462, the son returned with greater force, and took the place, which ever since has remained in possession of the christians.—This

was the ninth flege.

The tenth was in 1704, when it was torn from the Spaniards by the English. under the

command of Sir George Rooke.*

The Spaniards were forely hurt with the loss of this most important station. They knew its consequence, and, added to the value conferred by its strength and situation, the circumstance

^{*} The Prince of Hess had landed on the ishmus with eighteen hundred men, but the steepness of the Rock made an attack on that side impracticable. The British sleet sired upwards of 15000 shots, without effecting a surrender, when a body of sailors, on the 4th of August, in a merry-making excursion, happened to row close under the New Mole in their boats, (the cannon of which must have sunk them had any been fired,) were encouraged to attempt landing; and being successful, they mounted the Mole, and hoisted a red jacket as a signal of possession. Boats, with troops and seamen, were immediately detached to shore, and in a short time they got possession of the eight gun battery in the Line Wall, which caused the town to surrender.

complance of giving to an ancient enemy such a footing in the kingdom, was a mortification which the proud spirit of the Spaniards could not bear. An expedition was immediately formed, and the eleventh siege commenced under the Marquis de Villadarius. The siege lasted sour months; and sinding all their efforts, though vigorous, were vain, it was a-

bandoned in 1705.

Great Britain, fully fentible of its importance, bath maintained it at an immense cost, and hath taken such advantage of its natural powers in disposing the works that have been raifed, as to make it indubitable the strongest fortification in the universe. Spain has observed this conduct with unavailing regret. The recovery of this post has at one time given them subject for declaring a war, and at another time has been claimed as the price of peace. They ceded it at the peace of Utrecht without grace, for they stipulated for a right of preexemption in case Great Britain should dispose of it. 12 Many negociations were opened; many offers of purchase, and of places to be exchanged for it; but all were fruitless. English nation were justly jealous of the treafure, and if at one time ministers were difposed or were cajoled to squander it by negociation, the bargain was prevented by the vi-gilance of parliament, and the spirit of the people. It was made the subject of warm discustion in the Lower House in the year 1727. These secret manœuvres proving abortive, the Spaniards fat down before Gibraltar on the 13th of February, in 1727; but this, which was the rath fiege, and under the conduct of the Marquis Marquis de la Torras, was like the former,

spirited and fruitless.

The thirteenth fiege was begun in 1779, and continued incessantly until 1783, a period of almost four years. On the first investment, Admiral Don Barcello blocked the port by fea, and General Don Juan de Mendoza, cut off the communication by land. A short time after, he was recalled for particular reasons, and General Alvery appointed, who governed until the Duc de Crillion arrived from Minorca (after its capture) when he was invested with the command, and continued in it till the conclufion of the fiege. The garrison have, by their perseverance, presented to Europe a picture of the most gallant defence. They have resisted the efforts of the most numerous and best equipped band of besiegers that, perhaps, ever beset any fortress. The Spaniards have bent every endeavour to this fingle object. They have starved their marine, and neglected their power in every other quarter of the globe, that they might employ all their resources, and direct all their attention to this great end. Their works have been immense, their industry indefatigable. They have endeavoured to accomplish its reduction by the constancy of their attack; by their numbers they have been able to make their operations incessant, that the garrison might have no relaxation from fatigue, no opportunity for repose. All their ftruggles, however, have been vain. The garrifon was annually relieved with provisions, though the want of store-houses tended greatto make it uneatable; and when they rushed on confident of victory, had the glory to gain

gain immortal renown, by repulfing so superior a force, under the immediate eye of the principal personages, nobles, and grandees of Spain, who had affembled to view the capture of the important fortress.

configuration by letter a Wilson Since at m.

Lina bontékan adar dia alagan ereske tejan

sat fully belieffit. To but restor to the

tte especies. Control of in it till the control of till the control of the second of t

r talla, i pomilio la testare com a estar La la tala villi santa Salana

compact bond of behis arribat, carled

des leu deremba flom Sili In Tions

Not a section will six to built-lieses also sa

MEMOIRS

MEMOIRS of the LIFE and MILITARY SERVICES of General Sir GEORGE AU-GUSTUS ELIOTT.

CIR George Augustus Eliott, the brave and gallant defender of Gibraltar, is the fon of the late Sir Gilbert Eliott of Stobbs, in Roxburghfbire. The antient and honourable family of Eliott of Stobbs, as well as the colateral branch of Eliott of Minto, in the fame county, and of Eliott of Port Eliott, in Cornwall, are originally from Normandy. Their ancestor, Mr. Aliott, came over with William the Conqueror, and held a diffinguished rank in his army. There is a traditionary anecdote in the family relating to an honourable distinction in their coat of arms, which, as it corresponds with history bears the appearance of truth. When William fet foot on the English land, he flipped and fell on the earth. He fprang up again and exclaimed, that it was a happy omen—he had embraced the country of which he was to become Lord. Upon this Aliot drew his fword, and fwore by the honour of a foldier, that he would maintain, at the hazard of his blood, the right of his Lord to the fovereignity of the earth, which he had embraced. On the event of conquest, King William added to the arms of Aliot, which was a baton, or, on a field azure, and the arm and fword, as a crest, with the motto, per fana, per ignes, fortiter, et recte. We mention this as a curious fact delivered down and recorded as a memorial of their antiquity.

Sir Gilbert Eliott. of Stobbs, had nine fons and two daughters. The present Gen. Eliott is the youngest son, and he is now the only R furviving

furviving one. His eldest son, Sir John Eliott, left the title and estate to his son, the present Sir Francis Eliott, who is therefore nephew to the General.

Sir George Augustus Eliott was born about the year 1718, and received the first rudiments of his education under a private tutor retained at the family feat. At an early age he was fent to the University of Leyden, where he made a rapid progress in classical learning, and spoke with elegance and fluency the German and Being defigned for a mili-French languages. tary life, he was fent from thence to the celebrated Ecole Royale du genie militaire, at La Fere in Picardy. This school was rendered the most famous in Europe by means of the great Vauban, under whom it was conducted. It is now under the management and care of the Comte d'Horroville. Here it was that the foundation was laid of that knowledge of tactics in all its branches, and particularly in the arts of engineering and fortification, which has fo greatly distinguished this officer since. He compleated his military course on the continent by a tour, for the purpose of seeing in practice what he had been studying in theory. Prusha was the model for discipline, and he continued for some time as a volunteer in that service. Such were the steps taken by the young men of fashion in that day to accomplish themselves for the service of their country. Many of his cotemporaries were then firmly engaged, nobly abandoning the enjoyment of ease and luxury at home, for the opportunity of feeing actual service.

Mr. Eliott returned in the 17th year of his age, to his native country of Scotland, and was in the fame year, 1735, introduced by his father, Sir Gilbert, to Lieut. Col. Peers of the 23d regiment of foot, or Royal Welch Fuzileers, then lying in Edinburgh. Sir Gilbert presented him a youth anxious to bear arms for his King and country. He was accordingly entered a volunteer in that regiment, and continued for a twelve-month or more. At this time he gave a gromife of his future military talents, and shewed at least that he was a soldier au From the 23d he went into the engineer corps at Woolwich, and made great progress in that study, until his uncle, Col. Eliott, brought him in as Adjutant of the fecond troop of horse grenadiers. In this situation he conducted himself with the most exemplary attention, and laid the foundation of that dilcipline which has rendered those two troops the finest corps of heavy cavalry in Europe, the Hanoverian body guards, and the musqueteers of France not excepted. With these troops he went upon service to Germany in the war before last, and was with them in a variety of actions. At the battle of Dettingen he was wounded. In this corps he first bought the rank of Captain and Major, and afterwards purchased the Lieutenant Colonelcy from Col. Brewarton, who fucceeded his uncle. On arriving at this rank he refigned his commission as an engineer, which he had enjoyed along with his other rank, and in which fervice he had been actively employed very much to the fervice of his country. He had received the instructions of the famous engineer Bellidor,

and made himself compleatly master of the fcience of gunnery. Had he not difinterestedly refigned his rank in the engineer department, he would now, by regular progression, have been at the head of that corps. Soon after this he was appointed an Aid-de-camp to King George II. and was already diffinguished for his military skill and discipline. In the year 1759 he quitted the fecond 1 sop of horse grenadier guards, being selected to raise, form, and discipline the first regiment of light horse, called after him, Eliott's. As foon as they were raifed and formed, he was appointed to the command of the cavalry in the expedition on the coasts of France, with the rank of Brigadier-General. After this he passed into Germany, where he was employed on the staff, and greatly distinguished himself in a variety of movements, while his regiment displayed a strictness of discipline, activity, and enterprize, which gained them fignal honour; and indeed they have been the pattern regiment, both in regard to discipline and appointment, to the many light dragoon troops that have, fince that period, been raised in our service. From Germany he was recalled for the purpose of being employed as fecond in command in the memorable expedition against the Havannah. It was possible to find an officer in the funthine of the court to whom, under the patronage of a Prince, the trappings of the chief command might be given; but an Eliott was wanting to act, as well as an Albemarle to thine, and for him they were forced to go to the dufty plains of Germany. The circumstances of that conquest are well known. It seems as

if our brave veteran had always in his eye the gallant Lewis de Velasco, who maintained his station to the last extremity, and when his garrison were flying from his side, or falling at his feet, disdained to call for quarter, but fell gloriously exercising his sword upon his

conquerors.

Our readers will pardon us for the recital of a fhort anecdote, which occurred immediately after the reduction, as it shews, that in the very heat and outrages of war, the General was not unmindful of the rights of humanity. He was particularly eminent among the conquerors of the Havannah, for his difinterested procedure, and for checking the horrors of indifcriminate plunder. To him, therefore, appeals were most frequently made. A Frenchman who had fuffered greatly by the depredations of the foldiery, made application to him, and begged, in bad English, that he would interfere to have his property restored. petitioner's wife, who was prefent, a woman of great spirit, was angry at the husband for his intercession, and said, Comment pouvez vous demander du grace a un homme qui vient vous depouiller? N'en esperez pas. The husband perfifting in his application, his wife grew more loud in the censure, and said, vous n'etes pas Francois! The General who was bufy writing at the time, turned to the woman, and faid, fmiling, Madame ne vous, echauffez pas, ce que votre mari demande lui sera accorde! Oh faut-il pour surcroit de malheur, exclaimed the woman, que le barbare parle le François. The General was fo very much pleafed with the woman's ipirit, that he not only procured them their property property again, but also took pains to accommodate them in every respect. This has been through life the manly characteristic of the General. If he would not suffer his troops to extend for the sake of plunder (the ravages of war) he never impoverished them by unjust exactions. He never would consent that his Quarter-Master's place should be fold, "not only, says he, "because I think it the re-"ward of an honest veteran soldier; but also, because I could not so directly exercise my authority in his dismission, should he behave "ill."

On the peace, his gallant regiment was reviewed by his Majetty in Hyde Park, when they presented to the King the standards they had taken from the enemy. The King gratified with their high character, asked General Eliott, what mark of his favour he could beflow on his regiment equal to their merits. He answered, that his regiment would be proud if his Majesty should think, that, by their fervices, they were entitled to the diftinction of Royals. It was accordingly made a royal regiment, with this flattering title. The 15th or King's Royal Regiment of Light Dragoons. At the fame time, the King expressed a desire to confer a mark of his favour on the brave General; but he declared, that the honour and fatisfaction of his Majesty's approbation of his fervices was his best reward.

During the peace he was not idle:—his great talents in the curious branches of the military arts, gave him ample employment; and in the year 1775, he was appointed to succeed General A'Court as Commander in Chief of

the

the forces in Ireland. But he did not continue long in this station; not even long enough to unpack all his trunks; for, finding that interferences were made by petty authority derogatory to his own, he refisted the practice with becoming spirit; and not chusing to disturb the government of the fifter kingdom, on a matter personal to himself, he solicited to be recalled, and accordingly was fo, when he was appointed to the command of Gibraltar, in a fortunate hour for the fafety of that important fortress. The system of his life, as well as his education, peculiarly qualified him for this trust. He is, perhaps, the most abstemious man of the age. His food is vegetables, and his drink water. He neither indulges himself in animal food nor wine. He never fleeps more than four hours at a time; fo that he is up later and earlier than most other men. He has fo inured himself to habits of hardiness, that the things which are difficult and painful to other men, are to him his daily practice, and are rendered pleafant by use. It could not be easy to starve such a man into a surrender, nor eafy to furprize him. His wants are eafily supplied, and his watchfulness beyond precedent. The example of the Commander in Chief in a belieged garrison, has a most perfualive efficacy in forming the manners of the foldiery. Like him, his brave followers came to regulate their lives by the most strict rules of discipline before there arose a necessity for fo doing; and fevere exercise, with short diet, became habitual to them by their own choice. The military fystem of discipline which he introduced, and the preparations he made for his

his defence. were contrived with fo much judgment, and executed with fo much address that he has been able, with a handful of men to preferve his post against an attack, the constancy of which, even without the vigour, has been fufficient to exhauft any fet of men. Collected within himself, he has in no instance destroyed, by premature attacks, the labour which would cost the enemy time, patience, and expence to compleat; he has never fpent his ammunition in useless parade, or in unimportant attacks. He has never relaxed from his discipline by the appearance of security, nor hazarded the lives of his garrifon by wild experiments. By a cool and temperate demeanour he maintained his station for four years of constant investment, in which all the powers of Spain were employed. All the eyes of Europe has been on his garrison, and his conduct has justly exalted him to a most elevated place in the military annals of the prefent day.

The General married a fifter of the present Sir Francis Drake, and by her has had a son and a daughter. The son is now Lieut. Colonel of the 6th (or Inniskilling) regiment of dragoons, and the daughter is married to Mr.

Fuller, of Bayly Park in Suffex.

His Majesty was graciously pleased in addition to the order of the Bath, to create him a Baron of England by the title of Lord Heathfield, which he enjoyed but a short time, being ordered at the late armament against Spain to proceed to Gibraltar, he died on his passage.

